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EATING OUT GUIDE INSIDE**

CITY HOTEL EXPANSION ON AGENDA

AN EXTENSION to one of the city's leading hotels is a step closer after a site visit by council officers.

The Abbots Barton Hotel wants an additional 34 bedrooms to attract more visitors to Canterbury, particularly tour coach parties.

The hotel, in New Dover Road, is an ornate, Gothic-style Victorian building in extensive grounds.

It is regarded by tourism chiefs as one of the top three hotels in the district.

On Thursday, the hotel was visited by council officers and afterwards a

■ BY NICK AMES

narrow three to two majority voted in favour of recommending the proposal.

It will now be debated at a meeting of the development control committee on October 13.

The planning application states the purpose of the extension is to allow the hotel to accommodate two coach parties of tourists.

The development would also increase the venue's star rating and make it more attractive to visitors planning an extended stay in the city.

The economy and tourism team for Canterbury strongly supports the plan. Members also pointed out it would make the venue more attractive for businesses holding conferences in the district.

Development in this area is regarded as a priority under the city's economic strategy.

The hotel has 53 rooms, following an upgrade nine years ago. But a larger scale increase in rooms was previously turned down.

Canterbury Conservation Advisory Committee wrote to councillors saying members felt the new design was bet-

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IN SAFE HANDS

Wicketkeeper Geraint Jones has been nominated player of the year by Kent County Cricket Club supporters. Jones, pictured above, stepped into the firing line by taking over a number three batting position which has caused problems in the past.

He finished 25th in the national first class averages, scoring 1,345 runs at an average of 51.73. He played 17 first-class matches and batted 26 times, scoring five centuries and six 50s.

He also contributed with bat in the two one-day competitions and the Twenty20 Cup while his form behind the stumps was excellent.

Jones received his award during the interval of the county's final match of the season, a Pro 40 league loss to Northamptonshire Steelbacks. Jones's form could make him a contender for an England Test squad slot in South Africa later this year, as a deputy to Matt Prior.



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EXPERT ADVICE: Chef Michael Caines demonstrates his cooking techniques to the audience

Local produce is the star of food festival

LOCAL produce was on the menu at the Canterbury Food and Drink Festival.

Around 30 companies from the Produced in Kent network showed off the best the county had to offer in the Dane John Garden.

Among the most popular events at the festival were culinary displays organised by Foodforkent.co.uk – the KOSmedia-backed one-stop shop which showcases the best of the county's producers.

On Sunday, Michelin-starred chef Michael Caines was on hand to demonstrate techniques which made him one of the UK's top foodies.

"More and more chefs are realising the benefits of local produce, the freshness and the taste," he told the crowd before showing how to make the best of some seasonal ingredients from the Garden of England.

Mr Caines, who was once voted AA Chef's Chef of the Year, runs the popular Abode Restaurant in the city.

■ BY NICK AMES

Among the spectators was Caroline Wilshire, from Faversham, who said: "I always shop for local produce, especially at Faversham's market, which is a good way of getting a choice from the best farmers around."

"It's inspiring that a top chef thinks the same as I do."

Master brewer Julian Herrington was also in the tent to show how to complement food with locally-produced beer.

Other members of the Produced in Kent group were selling game, seafood, beef, pork, venison and lamb, but sweets, desserts and drinks were also showcased.

German wines and sausages were available, meads and liqueurs from the Canterbury Tales tourist attraction could be sampled and curries were prepared under canvas.

Jazz band Goosebumps provided a musical backdrop to the event.

Service of thanks for volunteers

A THOUSAND words of thanks will be said at Canterbury Cathedral at the weekend to the volunteers and supporters of Cancer Research UK.

The Canterbury Thanksgiving Service for Cancer Research UK, on October 3, is an opportunity to thank the people of Kent for the generous support that underpins the charity.

Leading the tributes will be Princess Alexandra, the Lord Mayor of Canterbury, Cllr Dr Harry Cragg and the High Sheriff of Kent, Jane Rogers, along with the chief executive of Cancer Research UK, Harpal Kumar, and the charity's chairman, David Newbigging.

Cancer survivor David Iron from Faversham will be guest speaker.

David, 55, a financing advisor to the Government on space projects, has survived skin cancer, non-Hodgkins lymphoma, colon and liver cancer and thought he may not live to see his twins, Freddie and Rosie grow up. They are both now at university and David is well again.

Up to 1,000 people will attend the event. Among them will be volunteers who have served in Cancer Research UK shops or on fundraising community groups for more than 40 years.

The service, which has been organised by supporter Clare Denison-Pender, will be led by The Dean of Canterbury, The Right Reverend Robert Willis.

Drama ventures to new territory

AN ACCLAIMED Anglo-Belgian company called Reckless Sleepers will bring their production of *The Pilots* to the Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury.

A cast of just two will perform the unusual piece, which involves changing identities.

The show starts at 7.45pm on Tuesday, October 6.

A spokesman for the group said: "Two men are pretending to be George Michael and Andrew Ridgely in the Club Tropicana video pretending to be pilots. The Pilots follows a flight path from arrival to departure on a journey into uncharted territory."

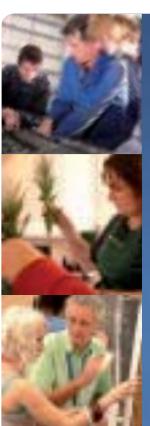
The performance is described as somewhere between a rehearsal and a re-enactment.

There is also the chance to join Reckless Sleepers for a post show discussion in the theatre.

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Help board chart new course at the harbour

WHITSTABLE Harbour Board is developing a strategic plan for the harbour's future development – and is inviting input from the town.

The group oversees the day-to-day operation of the harbour, which is home to the town's oyster and fishing fleet.

Now it wants to hear from residents about the best way forward.

The harbour is the town's link to a fascinating seafaring history which includes diving, shipbuilding, fishing and trade.

The connection to Canterbury via the railway – the old Crab and Winkle line – was the reason for the harbour's construction in 1831, to carry heavy materials, such as coal from the north east, to the city.

Heritage

At a recent meeting of campaign group Whitstable Harbour Watch, residents expressed views on maintaining the fishing fleet, the possibility of a higher sea wall and retaining the industry.

The meeting urged the board to reject housing plans and instead build on the heritage of the docks and provide facilities for families.

Whitstable remains a working harbour. On the East Quay, there is Brett's importation and asphalt production for the construction

BY NICK AMES

industry in Kent. On the West Quay, there is fishing as well as wind farm maintenance operations.

Fishing and related activities continue on the South Quay.

Leisure and sporting activities have flourished, with the sea scouts, yacht, angling, kite and windsurf activities all based on harbour land, along with the RNLI.

Leisure has also developed from a marine angle – with Greta barge tours and Bay Blast excursions based on the South Quay – and a gastronomic one with cafes, restaurants and market.

The harbour supports 100 to 150 full-time employees. In addition, the harbour contributes to indirect employment and to the economy of the town as a tourist attraction.

It also adds to the wellbeing of the community such that they choose to stay within the town to shop and support local businesses. In addition, the harbour forms part of the town's sea defences.



RISING TIDE: Whitstable Harbour has served the town since 1831 – but what of the future?



BIG PLANS: The Abbots Barton Hotel

Hotel expansion on the agenda

FROM FRONT PAGE

ter than the one previously rejected but still claimed it was "uninspiring".

Members also said further landscaping details need to be provided together with proposals to manage the trees in the grounds.

Oaten Hill and District Society has no objections to the scheme although seven letters of objection have been written by residents in neighbouring Abbots Barton Walk, New Dover Road and Old Dover Road.

These relate to loss of outlook, overlooking of properties, increased traffic movement and the plans being "detrimental to the area".

A Canterbury council official said: "The plans were recommended for acceptance after the site visit. It is now up to the full committee and members will be discussing it at the next meeting."

Archbishop's warm words over Pope's 2010 visit to UK

THE news that Pope Benedict XVI is to visit Britain next year has led to fevered speculation about a possible visit to Canterbury.

It will be the first papal visit to Britain since 1982, when Pope John Paul II's six-day tour drew huge crowds, especially at the home of the Church of England. And it would be only the second since Henry VIII broke with Rome and established the Church of England 500 years ago.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, who is visiting the Anglican Church in Japan, responded to the news with delight.

He said: "Some time ago, following similar invitations from Roman Catholic bishops and the British Government, I personally expressed my hope to Pope Benedict that he would visit Britain.

I am therefore delighted to hear today that there is every possibility that the Pope may indeed visit Britain in the course of the next year.

"I'm sure I speak on behalf of

Anglicans throughout Britain, in assuring him that he would be received with great warmth and joy."

The news of Pope Benedict's visit comes after Prime Minister Gordon Brown extended a formal invitation to the Pope during a private audience in February.

A spokesman for the prime minister said he was "delighted" and "it would be a moving and momentous occasion for the whole country".

Details of the visit have yet to emerge but the trip is set to be the first official state visit by a pontiff - John Paul II's visit in May 1982 was on a pastoral basis and did not follow an official invitation from the Government.

Conservative leader David Cameron said he was "delighted" to hear of the possible visit.

He said: "Such a visit would be greatly welcomed not only by Roman Catholics but by the whole country."

The Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales also sent the Pope a formal invitation in 2007.

Town and gown come together as neighbours

A LACK of community spirit in Hales Place – which has a large student population – has led to action from the city council.

Bringing students and residents together is the aim of a Hales Place neighbourhood event on Wednesday, October 7.

The event, at St Stephen's Community Centre in Tenterden Drive, between 3pm and 6.30pm, has been set up by the council's community development service and Kent Union at the University of Kent at Canterbury.

Consultation with residents on the estate showed 74 per cent felt there was a lack of community spirit.

And with a new intake of students at the university, organisers hope the neighbourhood event will be a way to improve the situation.

Security

Stalls will provide information about council tax, recycling, fire safety, housing, policing, health, children and young people's services and the Resident's Card scheme.

There will be face painting, activity sessions for children, free security marking for valuables, music from Canterbury Student Radio, plus a barbecue and refreshments.

Canterbury council's executive member for community development, Cllr Jean Law, said: "Community spirit has been identified as an issue by people in Hales Place, and the council is working hard to address this.

"With new students moving into the area to live alongside permanent residents, this is the perfect time for an event like this and we hope people will turn out to support it."

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Bowl them over at youth conference with views

THE annual free youth conference for 11 to 17-year-olds, Hot Topix, is to take place at AMF Bowling in Whitstable on Sunday, October 18.

Booking is now open for the two sessions of 9.30am to 12.30pm, and 2pm to 5pm, with 60 places available at each one. A free coach is being laid on from Canterbury for the afternoon session.

The conference is being held as part of Local Democracy Week and aims to celebrate the work that young people have been involved in throughout the year and listen to the views and ideas of young people.

Young people will be able to take part in workshops on local democracy and enjoy free bowling and refreshments.

For more details or to reserve a space at either session, contact Nicky Gould at the city council on 01227 862125 or email nicky.gould@canterbury.gov.uk.

Demonstrations will get you hooked on eating fish

SHOPPERS at Canterbury Morrisons can catch exclusive Fishmonger demonstrations and net useful cooking tips whilst learning about fish preparation.

From filleting and frying to sourcing and seasoning, shoppers will be offered all sorts of interesting information. Customers can pick up tips on how to prepare fresh fish, which cuts to choose and learn more about where their fish comes from.

Demonstrations will be held at the instore fish counter daily at 4pm.

The Fishmonger master classes are part of Morrisons Seafood Fortnight, which will run now until Sunday, October 4, and aim to raise awareness of the health benefits of eating seafood.

Lt killed by IRA gun fire is remembered at service

A HEADSTONE has been unveiled to remember Lt Stephen Kirby of Whitstable who died 30 years ago in an IRA attack.

It is situated in All Saints Churchyard and the ceremony was witnessed by relatives, friends and former comrades.

Lt Kirby was killed just months after joining the Royal Welch Fusiliers as a soldier. He died in Londonderry on St Valentine's Day 1979 aged 22 after his patrol came under attack from IRA machine gun fire.

For sale - a house that's fit for a king

■ BY NICK AMES

cession to the throne of King James I in 1603. And it is still much as it was over 400 years ago.

The artwork is one of very few examples of designs from the period in a private home in Britain.

It features heraldic colours and verses from the Bible with the date 1603 as well as the letters IR – for the king – and PH for his son Prince Henry who died in 1612.

The most convincing theory behind the reasons for the painting is that it was to mark a visit to Sandwich by King James just after his coronation.

But the reason behind the excellent state of preservation of the works is more easily explained.

Such obvious association with royalty and support for a king would have put the occupants at great risk during the years of the English Civil War in the mid 17th century.

So it is likely they were covered and then appeared to have been forgotten until being



PROPERTY WITH A PAST: Paramour Grange is for sale for £1.1m, it has a bedroom dedicated to King James I

uncovered in 1915.

The person believed to have authorised the work is Thomas Paramour whose family had a long association with the home.

He was Lord Mayor of Canterbury between 1607 and 1619 and his family were prominent in the area until the 1650s when they appear to be removed from the pages of history – possibly because of the Parliamentarian victory over King Charles I in the English Civil War.

The house and its grounds were then occupied by farmers throughout the 18th and 19th centuries as it continued in private ownership until the present day.



GREEN: Schools debate climate change

Climate change is not child's play

A 10-YEAR-OLD from Canterbury was one of the children who sent a message to Government demanding action from December's Copenhagen summit, not just empty targets.

They also urged the organisers of the summit to practice what they preach and guarantee the event itself will be carbon neutral. Their warning follows Gordon Brown's pledge to attend the summit in person – laying down the gauntlet to other world leaders.

The demands were issued at a summit of British Gas's Generation Green think tank, the first ever green think tank exclusive to UK schoolchildren, representing over 9,600 schools and four million children across the nation.

Speaking after the think tank announced its recommendations, Naomi Miall, 10, from Canterbury said: "We all know the climate is set to change, but today made us think about what must happen now."

The think tank identified three policies that it believes Government needs to introduce:

- Real action to come from the Copenhagen summit, and not just empty targets
- All major events from concerts to sporting events to the summit itself to be made low carbon
- All manufacturers to phase out the standby button to cut energy use in homes.

The policies will be put online to garner the support of schoolchildren and communities across the UK.



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STARTING SEARCH: Melanie Sykes is looking for a spokesperson to represent the country at environmental events



Could you be the Green Voice of Great Britain?

TV PRESENTER Melanie Sykes is urging Canterbury residents to enter a competition to find the first Green Voice of Great Britain, launched by the Energy Saving Trust.

Entrants are being asked to go to a website and explain why they should occupy the role which will involve them attending high profile environmental events and acting as a figurehead for the trust which has been established to fight global warming.

The winner will be announced at a Parliamentary event to take place on Wednesday, October 21 during Energy Saving Week.

The search for the "Green Voice" was launched on the day that latest figures from the Energy Saving Trust reveal that if everyone in Canterbury turned their thermostat down by 1oC they could save 2,600,000 per year, which would be enough to heat 3,900 homes a year.

The average household in Canterbury spends around £23 per week on fuel and power, around £1,200 per year. On average, homes in Canterbury can save £300 a year every year by insulating, improving their heating system and being energy efficient.

Mel said: "UK householders are responsible for almost half of the UK's carbon emis-

■ BY NICK AMES

sions so if we are half of the problem then we need to be half of the solution. We're looking for people who care about the environment, who want to get involved and have their say.

"You don't have to be an environmentalist living in an eco-house... we are looking for people who can represent the views of the man on the street and communicate these views in a simple manner – has someone in Canterbury got the green X Factor?"

Energy Saving Trust energy doctor Dr Paula Owen said: "Everyone can play a part in reducing carbon emissions across Great Britain and we need a people's representative to help inspire others."

The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Monday, October 5, after which a panel of environmental experts will shortlist to four finalists. Short films of each finalist will then be made with each person asked to describe why they are the best person for the job. The public will then be invited to vote on who should be "The Green Voice of Great Britain".

Anyone interested in applying for the "Green Voice of Great Britain" role should log on to www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/greenvoice and fill in the downloadable document explaining why, in no more than 100 words they should be the Green Voice of Great Britain.

Cat was left for weeks with broken leg

A CAT owner from Canterbury has been banned from keeping animals for a year after leaving her pet in agony with a broken leg for three weeks.

Helen Help, of Ingoldsby Road, was also ordered to pay £100 in costs and conditionally discharged for a year for causing unnecessary suffering to the cat and for failing to turn up to an earlier court hearing.

Last week Canterbury Magistrates heard that Help's cat Trevor broke his leg and she took him to the vet for an x-ray.

But she failed to return for treatment so the cat was left with a broken leg for three weeks before someone called the RSPCA.

RSPCA Inspector said: "To leave this cat

with a broken leg and no treatment is simply cruel and there is no excuse."

The RSPCA say Trevor will now be found a new home.



REHOMED: Trevor will be found a new home

yourcanterbury NEWS IN BRIEF

Centre to get even bigger

THE Thanington Neighbourhood Resource Centre which is a focus for community activities is set to get a bigger extension than originally planned after Canterbury city council agreed to a low interest rate loan of £42,000.

The centre received a lottery award for a one storey extension earlier this year to provide a dedicated area for young people's activities, and this is currently being built.

But during the summer staff approached the council for an urgent loan to fund the external walls of a second storey to the extension, before the roof went on.

At a meeting executive councillors agreed to the loan. The decision means the centre will be able to provide significantly more space for activities for local residents.

Executive member for finance, Cllr Peter Lee, said the council was pleased to be able to support the centre and give additional value to the lottery grant it secured.

Domestic assault charge

REECE Barratt beat up his girlfriend and threw a watch at a wall after he caught her reading saucy texts he sent to other girls.

Barratt, 20, of South Street, Whitstable, was in bed when his phone came flying in his direction, Canterbury magistrates heard.

He grabbed his girlfriend Kirstie Robinson by the throat and neighbours heard the commotion and called police.

Barratt admitted assault and damaging the watch worth £150. He was given a 12-month community order to include 60 hours unpaid work and ordered to pay £60 costs.

Steer clear of rogue reg

WHITSTABLE-based Quote Me Today, one of the UK's leading providers of car insurance, is warning consumers to be vigilant in the wake of reports from the DVLA of a crackdown on rogue licence plate traders selling copied registrations.

Those found guilty of supplying the plates will face severe penalties, which could include prosecution and a fine of up to £5,000. Drivers who have purchased the plates could have them seized and lose any money spent.

The DVLA said it is working with the police, Trading Standards and the courts to ensure that rogue suppliers are brought to justice.

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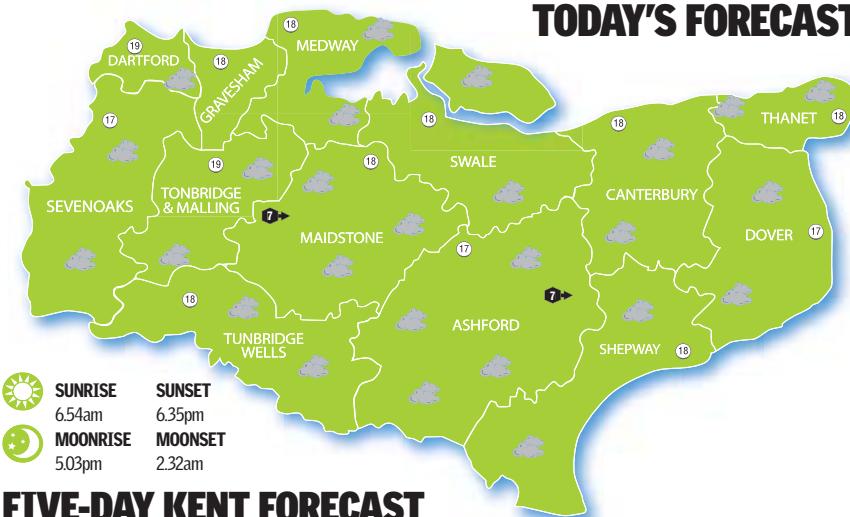
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Ashford	19°C	18°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	Gravesend	20°C	19°C	17°C	17°C	17°C
Canterbury	18°C	18°C	15°C	16°C	17°C	Maidstone	19°C	19°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Chatham	18°C	18°C	16°C	16°C	17°C	Ramsgate	18°C	18°C	15°C	16°C	17°C
Dartford	20°C	19°C	17°C	17°C	17°C	Rochester	18°C	18°C	16°C	16°C	17°C
Dover	17°C	17°C	15°C	15°C	17°C	Sevenoaks	17°C	17°C	15°C	15°C	15°C
Faversham	18°C	18°C	16°C	16°C	17°C	Sittingbourne	18°C	18°C	16°C	16°C	17°C
Folkestone	17°C	17°C	15°C	15°C	17°C	Tonbridge	19°C	18°C	16°C	15°C	15°C
Gillingham	18°C	18°C	16°C	16°C	17°C	Tun Wells	19°C	18°C	16°C	15°C	15°C

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	Sunday	1:35pm	6.0m
Dover	Saturday	11:18am	6.4m
	Sunday	11:46am	6.6m
Dungeness	Saturday	11:22am	7.4m
	Sunday	11:54am	7.7m
Ramsgate	Saturday	11:48am	4.9m
	Sunday	12:16pm	5.0m
Sheerness	Saturday	12:52pm	5.6m
	Sunday	1:25pm	5.7m
Whitstable	Saturday	12:51pm	5.2m
	Sunday	1:24pm	5.2m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	18°C	Madrid	24°C
Athens	23°C	New York	18°C
Barcelona	24°C	Paris	21°C
Beijing	24°C	Rome	26°C
Bombay	30°C	Sydney	20°C
Cape Town	18°C	Tenerife	23°C
Cardiff	17°C	Tokyo	26°C
Gibraltar	23°C	Vancouver	14°C
Hong Kong	26°C	Warsaw	20°C
Las Palmas	28°C	Wellington	13°C

What would you do if you were Lord Mayor?

CANTERBURY City Council is on the lookout for a young person to be Lord Mayor for a day.

As part of Local Democracy Week, one young 10 to 18-year-old will get to spend the day with Lord Mayor Cllr Harry Cragg on Thursday October 29 as he carries out his civic duties as the district's First Citizen.

Local Democracy Week is a national initiative that aims to encourage young people to get more involved in local government. Young people came up with the idea of the competition themselves.

Cllr Cragg said: "It is a fantastic role and I am looking forward to showing the winner what it's like to be the Lord Mayor of Canterbury."

To be in with a chance of winning, write up to 250 words on the subject of What I would do if I was Lord Mayor for a day.

Entries should be sent to Nicky Gould, Community Development, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YW, or email nicky.gould@canterbury.gov.uk.

Entrants should include their age, address and phone number, and the closing date is Tuesday, October 20.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

ANDY CADIER



Q & A

The former pirate radio DJ, who lives in Folkestone, spoke to **James Alexandre** about how his career as a chef in the RAF led to his first experience of the airwaves and changed the course of his future

Q Tell us something about yourself

A I was born during the war in October 1943 in Gravesend. My mother lived in Grays in Essex and my father died of cancer when I was nine. After an unspectacular schooling, at 16 I joined the catering unit of the RAF and became an apprentice chef.

I worked at military bases, including two-and-a-half years in Cyprus. It was while there that I helped produce some sponsored fund-raising sketches which were broadcast by the British Forces Broadcasting Service to raise money for the Wireless For The Blind Fund.

Having visited the BFBS studio and been very impressed, I used every excuse to visit the station. I did try to get myself seconded to the forces radio, but they would not accept people without relevant experience.

The problem was how do you get experience? In those days there were no media courses. I came back to the UK in 1965 and heard Radio Caroline and Radio London, known as Big L, and thought I would just love to be on something like that, but clearly they would want experienced people, too.

Anyway, I took a huge gamble and purchased my discharge from the Royal Air Force.

Luck was on my side as I heard some test transmissions being made by Radio Essex on 222 metres medium-wave from a small fort-based pirate coming from Knock John Tower in the Thames and sent them a tape of me.

Q How did you first become involved in pirate radio?

A I was invited to attend an interview with the owner of Radio Essex at Southend-on-Sea. While being interviewed, I was asked what I did for a living and replied that I was a chef at a Folkestone hotel. I never realised that in these small stations everyone needed to be multi-skilled – it was run on a shoe-string – and my cooking ability plus my DJing was just what they needed. It was just days later I found myself being literally hauled up on to their sea-based gun emplacement which served as a base for the radio station.

Q What kind of music did you broadcast on your show?

A On Radio Essex we played pop music at night as the leader stations closed around midnight. However, during the day it was middle-of-the-road music directed at housewives, playing the like of Frank Sinatra and Perry Como. I later moved to Radio 355, which was much more powerful and played a choice of soft pop, rather similar to BBC Radio 2 nowadays. Then on Radio Caroline it was mostly the top 40 charts, known as the Caroline Countdown of Sound.

Q What was the most enjoyable part of what you did then?

A I certainly enjoyed the music – what a way to earn a living – but it was the commun-

cation aspect which gave me the biggest buzz. We used to get letters from all over the place – it's hard to explain now, with radio stations all over the dial. They were telling us how they appreciated what we were doing, particularly in the face of threats by the Government to close down the pirate stations.

Q What was the highlight of your pirate radio DJ career?

A I suppose it was on August 14, 1967, when I arrived on the MV Caroline, the very ship I had heard broadcasting back in 1965. It was an experience beyond my wildest dreams.

Q Tell us about the role Folkestone played in the history of pirate radio.

A Folkestone was used by Radio Invicta, a station based on Redsands Fort off Whitstable.

After increased investment, this became the popular Radio 390. Offices were originally at Oxford House behind the Odeon Cinema in Oxford Terrace, but now demolished. Later offices were located at Queens House on the corner of Sandgate Road and Guildhall Street.

Years later the Grand (then a hotel) opened up a disco called Seventies in the basement – most of the audio equipment was ex-pirate radio gear.

Sadly, I never worked for either Radio Invicta or Radio 390, even though they were virtually on my doorstep.

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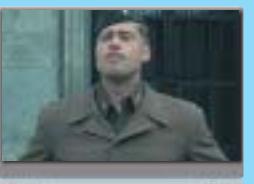
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EDITOR'S CHOICE

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Former addict has turned his life around and is helping others trapped by drugs

'If I can keep one person out of prison, it will be worth it'

Drug addiction's link to crimes committed to pay for the habit is well known. Darren Dilloway has served time in prison for drug offences but now works with the police and drug agencies to help people trapped by addiction. As part of our A Safer Kent campaign, taking a behind the scenes look at the work of Kent Police, **TOM BETTS** meets a man who has been on both sides of the system



TURNING your life around when you are fighting a £100-a-day drug habit is no easy task, but Darren Dilloway is living proof that it can be done.

At the peak of his addiction, Darren was living in a nightmare, flitting between prison and hostels, with a spate of convictions, heroin overdoses and near-death experiences under his belt.

He was losing the battle and thinks would be dead by now if he hadn't finally decided to try and escape and salvage something from life.

He said: "At one point I would honestly rather have been in prison than free. You get three meals a day, have no bills to pay and are looked after in a way."

Darren, 34, grew up in the Medway towns of Gillingham and Chatham and found himself in trouble with the police in his early teens.

He dabbled with drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, cocaine and LSD, before an addiction to speed got the better of him and he started stealing to pay for his habit.

Skipping school, unemployment, hanging around aimlessly and car crime became the norm and he soon found himself inside, where he first took heroin.

"Many people start to do it when they go inside as a 'bird-killer', to pass the time quicker, and when I got out I realised I was addicted," he said.

Years of addiction followed, with crack joining heroin on his daily wish list.

He said: "All that interested me each day was getting money to buy drugs, taking drugs and everything that went with it. I knew the risks but still I'd have tried anything. I was stuck in a vicious circle."

Talking about his crimes, he said: "The worst thing I've done is street robberies and burglaries.

"At one point I wouldn't think anything of breaking into four or five houses a day at the peak of my addiction. It didn't occur to me that there were victims, you don't really think like that."

However, after he last came out of prison, for a garage robbery, Darren decided he had to make a change.



DARREN DILLOWAY: 'I was stuck in a vicious circle'

hand in an hour, it's that easy. I have to take each day as it comes."

Making the break with his old life and many old friends and acquaintances was part of the process. "I have had to take myself away from my old life, and isolate myself from a lot of people," he said.

Darren has been clean for 18 months and has carved himself a new life. He has successfully completed a rehabilitation requirement and day programme and is facing the future with a renewed sense of hope.

Now he is volunteering and helping others with their drug problems and has managed to get himself a flat in Gillingham to start a new life.

Support

Eventually he hopes to get a job as a drug support worker, helping young people understand what a life as a drug addict can be like.

He said: "I want my story to be out there as it can show people they can turn their lives around.

"It's hard and you have to be ready and stable in life, but it is possible. If I can keep one person out of prison it will have been worth it."

Chief Superintendent Steve Corbishley, who is in charge of the Medway area for Kent Police, arrested Darren when he was causing trouble and has seen him start to turn his life around.

"I am delighted Darren is helping stop others turning to crime," said Chief Supt Corbishley.

"He can talk to offenders and potential offenders in language they understand, and get across the message that crime really does not pay."

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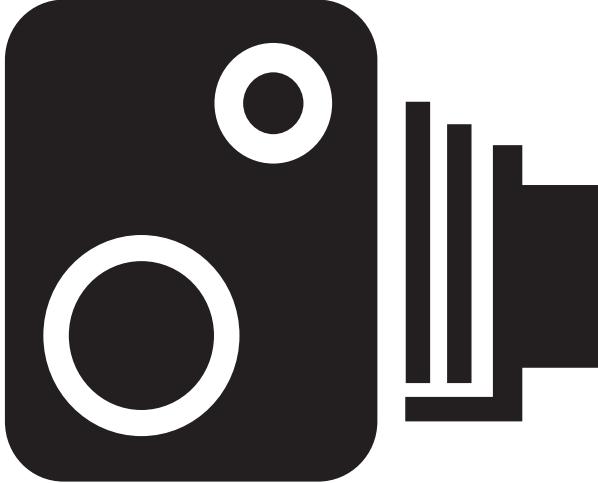
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SmartWater will trap flytippers

■ BY ANNA WHITE

KENT has become the first county in the UK to use a hi-tech forensic marker spray to catch and deter flytippers.

SmartWater is a permanent and invisible marking tool that is mainly used to protect property, but Clean Kent has now become the first agency to use the tool in this innovative way.

The Clean Kent campaign is a multi-agency project led by Kent County Council in partnership with district and borough councils, Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, the Crown Prosecution Service, the Highways Agency and the Environmental Agency.

With help from former BBC TV Watchdog presenter Nicky Campbell, who now presents the breakfast show on Radio 5, the agencies demonstrated at Maidstone Studios how SmartWater will play a crucial part in the ongoing campaign to crack down on flytipping in Kent.

Residents will be able to spray SmartWater on household waste before it is disposed of. If it is then found illegally dumped, officers can detect SmartWater using ultraviolet light and trace it back to the trader responsible.

The invisible coding spray will remain on any object permanently, even if it is burnt, making it possible to trace the waste back to



SMART MOVE: (From left) Clean Kent co-ordinator Melanie Price, Nicky Campbell, Kent Fire and Rescue Service assistant director of community safety Steve Griffiths, and SmartWater chief executive Phil Cleary

flytippers trying to cover their tracks.

Clean Kent co-ordinator at KCC, Melanie Price, said: "SmartWater has been used throughout the country, and globally, to mark property, but we have been innovative enough to come up with this unique way of using it to deter flytipping."

"Because it is invisible there is no way a trader could know if they are dumping unmarked waste illegally or marked waste. We are hoping the risk will deter them and reduce flytipping in Kent."

SmartWater chief executive Phil Cleary, whose brother invented the product, said: "The



BRIGHT IDEA: SmartWater shows up under UV light

use of SmartWater will help reinforce the message to criminals that Kent is now a no-go zone for flytippers. Through SmartWater, Clean Kent will have the technology to pursue convictions and will actively do so.

"SmartWater maintains a 100 per cent conviction rate when used as evidence in court, which will send a strong message to anyone considering flytipping."

The scheme is being piloted in the Swale and Sevenoaks areas first, before it is rolled out to the rest of Kent.

People found guilty of fly-tipping can face prison sentences of up to five years or a maximum fine of £50,000.

Railway offer 'staycationers' ride to rescue

TOURISM bosses have revealed a 14 per cent increase in the number of visitors to the Garden of England so far this year.

Visit Kent said families had been flocking to attractions such as Leeds Castle and Howletts and Port Lympne wild animal parks after a summer promotion in conjunction with train company Southeastern.

Figures from the tourism partnership show that 2,534,491 visitors came to Kent between January and July this year, compared with 2,227,083 in 2008.

The 2FOR1 promotion, which is continuing until March 2010, is available at more than 70 attractions, hotels and restaurants across Kent. Visitors have to present a valid rail ticket from anywhere in Southeastern's network along with a voucher downloaded from the campaign's website or from promotional brochures at railway stations.

More than 3,000 vouchers have been downloaded and it is hoped at least 5,000 will be redeemed before the end of the promotion.

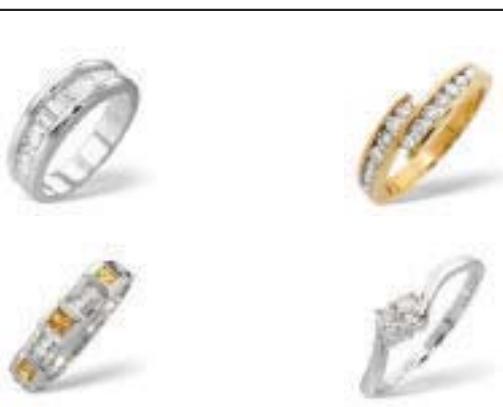
Sandra Matthews-Marsh, chief executive

of Visit Kent, said: "People are looking for value for money and a good deal and this offer represents that. They are top attractions in Kent – restaurants, hotels, places to visit – so it's a very compelling offer. We are convinced this campaign has made a contribution to the positive picture."

The top three downloads include Leeds Castle, Howletts and Port Lympne and Dover Castle. For more information and a full list of the attractions and destinations included in the offer, go to www.visitkentbytrain.co.uk.



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BREAK TIME**Fete cash to build preschool sandpit**

BLEAN preschool will get a new sandpit after hard work by parents and staff.

The garden is already very popular with the young pupils, aged between two and four, and it is about to get even better after an £800 donation from Blean fete.

Claire Boarman, from Blean Preschool, said: "The little ones get so much out of their garden activities and thanks to the fete, which mums and staff organised for the village in July, we raised £800."

"This is big money to a little preschool and we'd like to say thank you to the villagers for their generosity and support."

The school now has enough money to commission a new sandpit for the children. The sandpit has been specially designed for their garden and will be built by a local carpenter.

Schools must take action on bullying

A CHILDREN'S charity has called for schools and headteachers to be made more accountable for bullying.

The Children's Legal Centre says too many schools are refusing to take responsibility for abuse and this has resulted in more parents seeking legal advice to try to find a solution.

But the National Association of Head Teachers said current measures already mean heads are 'hyper accountable' for cases of bullying at their schools.

The Government last week said action was needed to strengthen procedures for parents whose children were suffering and a bill is going through Parliament.

Glass and steel temple a landmark to learning

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

ON THE site of an old 1970s office block opposite the city wall stands Canterbury Christ Church University's spectacular new library, Augustine House.

Described as the largest building project the institution has undertaken since its inception, the striking, modern landmark boasts an atrium large enough to fit 94 double-decker buses from floor to ceiling.

University bosses expect both returning students and this year's intake of freshers to be impressed by the building which houses student support services as well as a library.

At a cost of £35 million, Augustine House is the largest single project undertaken by Canterbury Christ Church since its foundation in 1962.

A spokesman said: "Boasting state-of-the-art technology and innovative design, Augustine House's bold, contemporary design makes a stunning contribution to the architecture of Canterbury, aiming to boost the economy by attracting new students and proving that Canterbury is a great place to study."

"Now with almost 16,000 students, the development of Augustine House shows the university's commitment to investing in the best facilities."

The huge building has taken 255,000 hours to build and used 1,000 tonnes of steel in its construction. The university has seen much



STUNNING: An inside view of Canterbury Christ Church University's new library, Augustine House

expansion in recent years, and Augustine House is one of a series of high profile projects that have been built or are planned.

A £4.9m sports centre was opened earlier this year, and campuses outside the city – Cathedral Court in Medway and the University Centre in Folkestone – have also

seen development. And funding is now being amassed for an £8m music centre for classical performance in Canterbury.

This will be built next to St Gregory's Church, close to the main campus in North Holmes Road, and is expected to become one of the region's foremost concert venues.

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Gary Wright asks why waste time considering a law that will always blame drivers in collisions with bicycles?



Surely cyclists are the worst example of green arrogance

THE cyclist may just be the best example yet of that self-righteous arrogance that has spoiled Britain over the past 20 years.

I tended to believe that the militant anti-smoker represented all that was worst about this country.

And be clear here, I mean the irritating, supercilious ANTI-smoker as opposed to the far less dangerous NON-smoker, who accepts that people have different ways to live their lives and that compromise is one of the best attributes a person can possess.

That holier-than-thou mentality runs so deep in these people that I have discovered over the years that the ANTI-smoker normally has a string of other unreasonable intolerances that mean he, or she, is not a person with whom I will choose to spend my free time.

They represent the worst of PC Britain and those people like fundamental Christians (well fundamental anyone really) who simply

believe they are right because it's too difficult to reconsider or admit you're wrong (anyone who took huge, spiteful delight in the law against smoking in public places).

But the militant bicyclist has come up on the outside and is now proving to be the most dangerous green Nazi in existence.

We have spent millions of pounds in local taxes and Lotto grants to build them a network of cycle paths across our fair isle.

But that's not good enough. Now Cycling England – an agency we fund through the Transport Department – wants the civil law to be changed so that drivers are automatically liable in the event of a crash. No matter who is at fault.

So the Lycra Louts – who ride like they own the road, ignoring traffic lights and using the pavement when it suits them, especially in big cities – will have even less reason to be careful.

They'll be secure in the knowledge that when they do smash head-on into a truck as they go the wrong way down a one-way street (which is another change in the law being con-

sidered), while they are recovering in hospital, at my expense, they will also know that compensation will be on its way from Mr Truck driver who is automatically to blame.

Surely this is madness.

Cyclists are at best a bunch of well-meaning folk who think that a mode of transport invented in the 19th century has a place on our busy 21st century roads. Incorrect.

At worst they are hoodlums who disregard the Highway Code believing they have the moral high ground because they are not polluting our planet.

Witness the ridiculous anger they've shown over Boris Johnson's sensible plan to open bus lanes to commuters on scooters and motorcycles. Absolute common sense and yet they have protested with an anger not seen since the last anti-foxhunt protest outside Parliament.

When cyclists start paying road tax (or VED for the picky) and have to pay insurance, then they deserve a voice, until then, ignore them and tell them to use the cycle lanes we have built for them.

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AS British summer time comes to an end and the temperature plummets, it seems that the only perk we have to look forward to is

an extra hour in bed.

In a bid to help banish these winter blues, Maille, France's leading mustard producer, and quality cookware specialists – Cuisinart, have teamed

up to offer Yourlocal readers a delicious treat to brighten up those gloomy evenings.

One lucky reader has the chance to win a premium 6.5 Litre Cuisinart Cook & Hold Slow Cooker and a luxury hamper, which includes the complete range of Maille mustards and sauces. Three runners up will also win a Maille hamper packed full of fantastic goodies.

Cuisinart Cook & Hold Slow Cookers, which have a five year guarantee, are perfect for making a variety of delicious winter warmer meals such as stews and pot roasts. Prepare your main dish in the morning and return home from a hard day's work to a delicious meal. What's more, winning readers can have fun with the entire Maille range whatever they may be cooking – just a few spoons of Maille Dijon Mustard really adds a fantastic depth of flavour to many dishes and recipes.

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Question: Who is France's leading mustard producer?

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yourletters

TALK TIME

ANDY HOPPER

The chairman of the City of Canterbury Model Railway Society on the massive satisfaction of his scaled-down hobby



How did you become interested in model railways?

Like most boys of my age I was interested in trains and had a train set, but it was not until years later when I had a young daughter that my interest was revived.

My wife volunteered at the Hospice Shop and one day she brought home some toy trains to check that they worked. My daughter and I had great fun playing with them, and eventually they evolved into a complex layout based on the Thomas the Tank Engine stories. It proved very popular with children and we took it to model railway exhibitions all over the country.

Now I am chairman of the City of Canterbury Model Railway Society. Apart from making models we hold an annual exhibition in January at St Anselm's School, when we bring in models from far and wide to entertain our 2,000 or so visitors. Pictures are at www.ccmrs.co.uk.

What is the best model railway you have made?

My current layout is a model of what could have happened had a railway been built to Manston Airport. As it is set in the 1950s it includes models of the USAF aircraft which were stationed there. I made virtually everything on the layout. I have been invited to exhibit it in places as far afield as Southampton and Manchester, and also the Museum of the Royal Artillery at Woolwich.

Do you prefer model railways to the real thing?

Yes I do, as I can create something that is just what I want, and does what I want it to, when I want it to. The real railway isn't like that.

YOUR LETTERS

This week's blog, see page 14, was posted on www.yourcanterbury.co.uk last week. Angry cyclists from all over Britain responded. Here are a selection of the comments so far:

You're moaning about the minority

You should realise that bikes emit zero emissions and hence don't pay "road tax" which of course is no longer applicable in any case.

Car drivers enjoy the same benefits by the way, depending on what emissions they emit. Like me, you can choose to pay full whack for your gas guzzler, or you can buy a G Wiz and pay nothing (I think).

I do agree there are some bike riders who break the law, jump red lights, are inconsiderate, and do bring the majority into disrepute, but in that example you can substitute just about any group in the same way, car drivers, taxi drivers, bus drivers, pedestrians, mobility scooter users etc.

I believe in the case of cyclists its very much the minority, and your comments seem to be centred on this minority.

Dex, by email

I won't be a danger to the pedestrians

This type of hate-inspired rant is very thing that is wrong with this country, being both narrow minded and selfish.

Because I am riding a bike, I



LETTERS: Please send your letters in to us at Yourcanterbury, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR



TEXT: Why not Text your view/letter/comment for Yourcanterbury to 81800 text CANT followed by a space your name and your view/letter/comment. Messages cost 25p plus standard network charges. Service provided by g8wave London N7.



EMAIL: Email us your letters to us at yourcanterbury@kosmedia.co.uk

Why the militant cyclist represents all that is worst about attitudes in Britain

Posted on 21/07/2009 at 18:00 by Gary Wright Group Midweek Editor

The cyclist may just be the best example yet of that self-righteous arrogance that has spoiled Britain over the past 20 years.

I intended to believe that the militant anti-smoker represented all that was worst about this country.

And be clear here, I mean the irritating, supercilious ANTI-smoker as opposed to the far less dangerous NON-smoker, who accepts that people have different ways to live their lives and that compromise is one of the best attributes a person can possess.

That holier-than-thou mentality runs so deep in these people that I have discovered over the years that the ANTI-smoker normally has a string of other unreasonable intolerances that mean he, or she, is not a person with whom I will choose to spend my free time.

pay no taxes? I should stick to cycle paths or shared paths – there are none on my commute and as I average above 20mph most of the time, I'd like to stay well away from pedestrians – thank you very much!

Jim, by email

Commuting cyclists are usually insured

If you had read the Highway Code (something you accuse cyclists of ignoring) you would know that it is perfectly acceptable for cyclists to ignore the cycle paths.

They are more dangerous and less convenient than using the roads, and very often badly maintained and blocked by parked cars. If you are not prepared to share the road with other traffic, perhaps you shouldn't be driving.

PS I have insurance, as do many cyclists, either through cycling organisations or as part of home insurance cover. For

comparison, there are more uninsured drivers in the UK than there are cycle commuters.

Kas, by email

Would he drive his bike to the path?

I do hope Mr Wright doesn't own a bike. It must frustrate him terribly to have to put it in his car, then drive to the nearest cycle lane, then have his refreshing, non-polluting, hurting nobody spot of exercise, then put it back in the car and drive home again.

Danny Smith, by email

There will always be idiots out there

So you've witnessed bad behaviour by cyclists, and drivers. I've witnessed them too, and also plenty by motorcyclists. And pedestrians.

If people commuted by boat

there'd be some idiot cutting up the other boats and double parking in the harbour. It's just not news. To imply that this attitude extends to all, or a majority, or even a significant minority, of cyclists is errant nonsense.

I choose to cycle because it's the most effective way to cover the three miles to the office. I don't hate car drivers or motorcyclists as a result. I hate that some of them do things which put me in danger, and I hate that columns like yours serve only to fuel the animosity.

Dave Atkinson, by email

They should pay for roads upkeep

Your comments regarding cyclists are in my experience quite true, many times have I seen cyclists riding through red lights or the wrong way down a one way street and even on pavements – terrorising pedestrians.

I do think they justify it to themselves in some way and so perhaps by getting them to contribute financially to the upkeep of roads etc they might take the laws that car drivers and motorcyclists abide by, seriously.

I'm not anti-cyclists by the way and I'm not anti smokers – they should be able to enjoy what they do in the same way drinkers can.

Clare Read, by email

Let's look at the bigger picture

As the debate on assisted suicide moves on let's not forget Pamela Weston, the latest Briton to take her life at Dignitas. Her main

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aim in telling her story was not to promote assisted suicide but to "push the Government hard on medical research into ME."

Until this happens, people like Miss Weston will continue to wait in vain for a scientific explanation of what causes this debilitating disease. This will be fundamental to developing better treatments and ultimately a cure.

Sir Peter Spencer
Chief executive, Action for ME

We want to protect the community

Liberal Democrats will require developers to indemnify local authorities against the costs of any appeal against planning permission as part of a packet of measures aimed at protecting the interests of consumers.

The policy adopted at the 2009 Liberal Democrat conference will help to protect the interests of residents and retailers against the threat posed by the financial resources of the major retailers.

This is an important step forward. Over the last 20 years, many of our towns and cities have turned into identikit carbon copies of one another.

One reason for this is that the big national retailers can use their financial resources to appeal any planning decision.

At a time when council revenues are under pressure, many local authorities feel they cannot afford to contest any appeal, with the result that developers often get exactly what they want.

Our proposals will give councils the ability to contest appeals where they feel a development is not in the interests of the community.

For those of us campaigning to protect Whitstable's future, these measures are just what are needed to support the independent retailers who help to give the town its unique character.

Guy Voizey,
Parliamentary spokesman for Canterbury and Whitstable Liberal Democrats

No price too high to clean up rivers

The Environment Agency has found that only five out of 6,114 rivers it has surveyed in the UK are clean.

None of the five which meet agreed common European standards are in Kent or Medway.

The Environment Agency has indicated that the River Stour

estuary and Pegwell Bay, plus the Stour upstream to above Ashford, is amongst the lowest two per cent of river sections for river water quality.

At times of low rainfall up to 70 per cent of the water in the mid Stour between Ashford and Canterbury has passed through the Ashford sewage plant. Chemicals such as oestrogen are not filtered out, and they severely affect wildlife. Similarly, the River Medway has badly polluted stretches.

The Government is committed to meeting the target of 95 per cent of rivers meeting agreed European "good" or "very good" standards by 2015, but it will have its work cut out to achieve this.

If we don't clean up the rivers, a variety of species will be damaged, or will not return to our rivers. This would include species such as the otter, kingfishers and water voles.

Kent County Council needs to adjust the Kent Environment Strategy and use available resources to assist in the clean-up of our rivers. The cost of meeting standards for England and Wales altogether would be about £9 billion. This is a price we should pay to conserve mammal, bird and fish species for the future.

Dr Geoff Meaden
Kent Green Party

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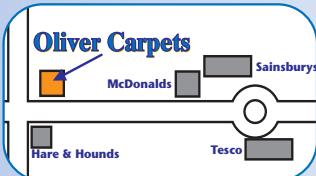
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THE Direct Pizza Company is one of the most popular concerns of its kind in the local area.

It has four branches across the county in Herne Bay, Canterbury, Sheerness and Deal.

A fifth could soon open in Thanet – testimony to the success of a business which prides itself on offering the very best.

The Herne Bay premises has recently expanded and now offers an ice cream parlour as well.

Mehmet Dari is owner of the family business which has been making fans of Italian cuisine happy for a decade.

"We owe the secret of our success to three key words," he said.

"Freshness, freshness, freshness."

"Our pizza dough is made fresh daily. Our tomato paste is made fresh on site. Our mozzarella is imported fresh from Italy."

One of the new dishes on offer is Duck Special. This consists of roast duck, onion and mushroom with barbecue sauce.

Mehmet added: "Our toppings are made from the finest ingredients we can find. The result is a piping hot, delicious pizza with the proof in every mouthful."

"One taste and you'll agree – when it's time for a good time it's Direct Pizza time."

Families are catered for and there are outside tables to take advantage of the coming summer.

"This is a very nice area and the people are particularly nice," said Mehmet. "It is a pleasure providing excellent food for them."

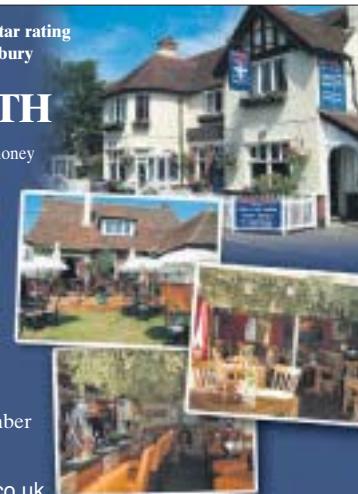
The business is a member of the local community group The Bay Card which enables customers to get a 10 per cent discount when spending £6.99 or more on pizzas for collection.



The premises are open from Sunday to Thursday from 12 noon until 12 midnight, while the kitchen is in operation on Friday and Saturday and on bank holidays from 12 noon

until 3am.

The Direct Pizza Company, 62 Central Parade, Herne Bay CT6 5JC. Telephone: 01227 749999.
www.thedirectpizzacompany.co.uk



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out guide

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An eventful 12 months

The Unicorn, Bekesbourne

MARTIN and Shirley have now been at The Unicorn for just over twelve months, although this has been a difficult year for pubs in general, trade has continued to improve since the beginning of 2009.

It has been an eventful year incorporating two beer festivals, charity events, themed evenings, numerous private functions, and most recently they welcomed their new chef, Fay to join their team. Although only at The Unicorn for a short period of time, Fay has managed to put her own personal touch to the menu.

Talking of the menu, The Unicorn will shortly be introducing its autumn/winter standard daily menu together with weekly seasonal specials. The ethos at The Unicorn still remains the same of sourcing as much seasonal local produce as possible for both food and drink.

The Unicorn's Christmas menu is now available and they are already taking Christmas party bookings for December.

Another feature introduced for the first time at The Unicorn this year, is that of Bat and



Trap. There is a regular practice night every Thursday evening and they have already played friendlys against other pubs in the area and are looking to continue this next season with a view to league involvement.

Other weekly events remain the same including Tuesday Steak Night, Wednesday Quiz Night, Sunday Folk/Acoustic open mic and very shortly to introduce on a Monday night a curry special night.

The Unicorn, Bekesbourne Hill, Bekesbourne CT4 5ED
Telephone: 01227 830210. www.pubunicorn.com.

Café makes you feel good

Mama Feelgoods Fine Food Store and Deli Café, Bekesbourne

SITUATED just out of Canterbury in the quiet and peaceful village of Bekesbourne is a friendly café that serves good quality food made fresh on the premises.

Mama Feelgoods Fine Food Store and Deli Café is one for those who take food seriously and combines good dining with the chance for some foodie retail therapy – as it is both a store and eaterie. So over lunch customers can browse the food they want to cook for supper.

Maddie Allen, proprietor, said: "Quite a few of our menu items are sold in the deli so this gives people the chance to try before they buy."

Breakfasts are served from 9.30am, hand-made cakes are available for coffee time including the ever-popular chocolates brownies and cupcakes as well as coffee and walnut cakes.

Lunch menu includes warm bread and chutneys, hand-made pastries, grilled sandwiches



and salads and in the afternoon there are plenty of warm scones for a cream tea or meringues for a special treat.

The store also has many gift ideas with a selection of baskets for hamper making as well as handicrafts. It is open seven days a week from 9.30am until 5pm Monday to Saturday and from 10.30 am until 4pm on Sundays.

Mama Feelgoods Fine Food Store and Deli Café, Chalk Pit Farm, School Lane, Bekesbourne, Canterbury CT4 5EU. www.mamafeelgoods.co.uk.

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Bekesbourne
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Monday-Saturday
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CHEF RECOMMENDS

Yoshi

Start with prawn in blanket – black tiger prawn wrapped in pastry and deep fried, served with a sweet chilli sauce. Follow with stir-fried roast duck – slices of honey-roasted duck, stir-fried with onions and red and yellow peppers in a homemade Thai aromatic herb sauce with abalone. Telephone: 01227 455888.

Anchor

Get going with deep-fried brie with cranberry topping and salad garnish. Then for main try Kentish lamb shank in rosemary and red wine served with local seasonal vegetables. For dessert, chocolate junk yard with whipped cream. Telephone: 01227 721207.

Walpole Bay

To begin have moules marinieres – steamed mussels cooked in a white wine, garlic, shallot and cream sauce and served with garlic bread. Follow this with the pan-fried lambs liver, served on a bed of cream potatoes with smoked bacon and onion gravy. End your meal with rhubarb crumble served with homemade custard. Telephone: 01843 221703.

Dog and Duck

Starter: yummy crispy coated camembert with garnish and cranberry sauce. Main course: massive lamb shank with seasonal vegetables and roast potatoes, gravy and mint sauce. Dessert: the ever-popular lumpy bumpy chocolate cake, with loads of cream. Telephone: 01843 821264.

Rose and Crown

Starter: mussels cooked in white wine, garlic, onion and celery served with crusty bread. Main course: t-bone steak served with mushrooms, grilled tomatoes, onion rings, salad and chips. Dessert: homemade bread and butter pudding. Telephone: 01227 709265.

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Just £29.99

For more information call

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yourleisure



Come on folks!

The 17th Tenterden Folk Festival takes place this weekend with something to entertain everyone

FROM Morris dance to the music of the Appalachian Mountains, there is plenty going on at the Tenterden Folk Festival.

Now in its 17th year, the festival offers a busy programme of concerts, workshops, dance displays and fairs which are sure to keep folk fans of all ages entertained.

The public events get under way on Friday night with an English barn dance in the Moulton Hall, with music from Geckoes, pictured below inset, and the festival continues with

a tempting array of activities and entertainment.

Visitors can even enjoy performances on the move as dance sides, musicians and singers visit the Kent & East Sussex Railway.

This year's highlights include two special shows featuring regional folk songs and music.

The music of Kent is celebrated on Saturday in Oyster Girls and Hovelling Boys, which features performances by local musicians such as Brian Peters, main picture below, Marian Button, Pete Castle, Bob Kenward and Roger Resch, Dave Mason, The Millen Family and Andy

Turner. The show is named after a recently released CD, the third volume in a series of albums of songs from the county.

During the show, the audience will hear unaccompanied ballads, songs sung with a guitar or accordion accompaniment, a Kentish poem and tunes on the concertina.

Although many of the acts are well-known names on the local folk scene, the audience will also meet Dave Mason, a young poet from Tenterden who wrote The Kentish Woman's Way. There will also be a performance by Betherden farming clan The Millen Family, who still cherish a long-standing singing tradition.

At the end of the show, which takes place in the Saddlery at the side of the White Lion at 6pm, all the artists will join in a rendition of The Whitstable May Song.

The second special concert will be held in the Evans Bar of the Tenterden Club at 1.30pm on Sunday, when Wiltshire songs will be performed in Sing the Year Round.

Tinkers Bag will be providing the entertainment, singing the songs that have been enjoyed at concerts and folk clubs in Wiltshire and beyond.

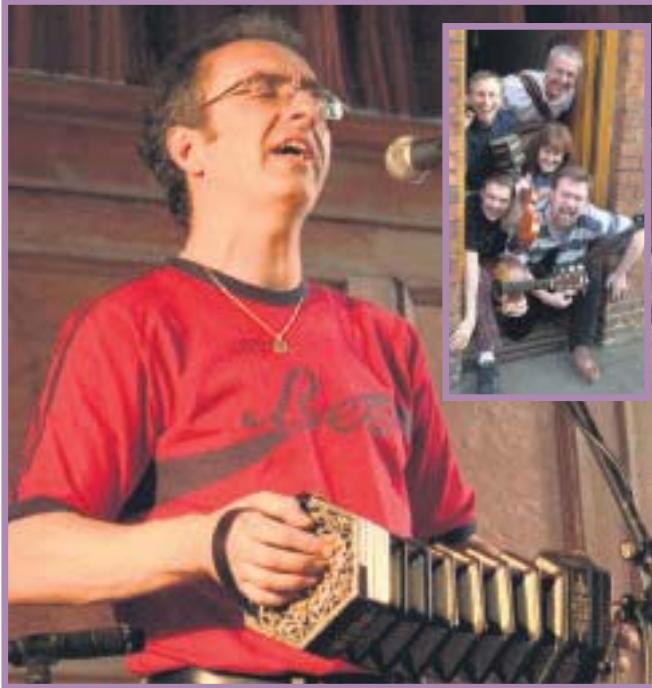
With their vast array of instruments, from melodeons and bouzouki to kazoos and the shaky egg, the group of friends draw on their established repertoire and also present some brand new songs.

These are just a few of the numerous concerts and events on offer, so pick up a programme or visit the website at www.tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk to browse the full festival listings.

TENTERDEN FOLK FESTIVAL



Friday, October 2 to Sunday, October 4



FOR MORE THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENT VISIT yourkenttv.co.uk

with

JANE CONNOLLYEmail jane.connolly@kosmedia.co.uk**DAVE LEE**Friday, October 9
King's Hall, Herne Bay

LOCAL legend Dave Lee is hitting the road to raise money for two good causes this autumn.

The highly popular comedian usually gives an annual comedy show at the Marlowe Theatre, but it has been put on hold for a couple of years while the Canterbury theatre is closed for redevelopment. Anyone who is missing their fix of Lee humour can still see him in action during the Dave Lee Comedy Dinners.

Taking place at venues across East Kent, the events will give fans the chance to enjoy a three-course meal, games, an auction and entertainment from the funny man himself. There will also be the opportunity to ask Lee questions during the evening.

Organised by the Friends of



the Marlowe, the events' proceeds will go to the New Marlowe Theatre Development Trust and Dave Lee's Happy Holidays charity.

The event starts at 7pm for

7.30pm and tickets cost

£39.50. To book call David Roberts on 01227 772969. A Dave Lee Comedy Dinner will also be held at the Swallow Chaucer Hotel in Canterbury on Saturday, October 25.

**JON HOLMES**Wednesday, October 7
Sidney Cooper Gallery, Canterbury

FORMER student Jon Holmes returns to take part in Canterbury Christ Church University's public lecture series.

The top radio comedian finds himself on the other side of the lectern when he discusses the stellar career that has taken him From Canterbury to Comedy. As co-creator of the multi-award-winning Dead Ringers and star of Radio 4's The Now Show, Holmes has become an esteemed comedian and writer with many impressive credits to his name.

After graduating with a joint degree in English and Radio, Film & Television, Holmes landed his own show on Radio 4 called Grievous Bodily Radio. He has worked with Armando Iannucci on projects such as the Sony Award-winning Charm Offensive and Time Trumpet, hosted his own show on BBC6 Music and written and performed on many TV shows such as Mock The Week, Have I Got News For You and The Impressionist Jon Culshaw.

Alongside scripting the BAFTA Film Awards with Stephen Fry, he hosted the MOJO Awards and is also a published author.

The lecture, which starts at 6pm, is free to attend but tickets must be booked. To secure your seat call 01227 782266.

**BEVERLEY CRAVEN**Saturday, October 3
Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury

TEN years after the release of her last studio album, Beverley Craven is back on the music scene.

The singer-songwriter became an instant success with the release of her debut single, Promise Me, in 1991. It reached the number three spot in the UK and also charted across Europe, while her self-titled debut album sold more than two million copies.

Craven moved to London from Hertfordshire at just 18 to pursue her dream, but several years passed before she finally won a recording contract with Epic Records in 1988. Within a year of its release, her debut album had been certified double plat-



ium and in 1992 she was named Best British Newcomer at the Brit Awards.

In 1999 she took a break from the music business following the release of third album, Mixed Emotions, to raise her family. She has also

successfully battled breast cancer and has now returned with Close To Home, her most personal album to date.

The concert starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £16. Book online at www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk or call 01227 787787.

CANTERBURY LEISURE**Swing along to hear that big band sound**

BIG band music is big news at the moment and fans can enjoy a live concert at the Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury.

The Deal-based Railway Swing Band will be performing at 7.45pm on Wednesday, October 7. The concert is being held in aid of Odyssey, a charity which helps former cancer patients in East Kent to rebuild their lives.

Tickets cost £12.50 on 01227 769075.

Vintage sounds with a touch of the tropics

ENJOY an afternoon of retro glamour with a tropical twist at The Cuban this weekend.

Jive Fiesta takes place at The Venue in High Street, Canterbury, where people can dress up and hear music from the 40s and 50s. The event runs from 2pm-8pm, Sunday, with jive class at 3pm. Entry is £3. Details call 07896 654571 or email revboogie@hotmail.co.uk.

Fire up your love of music with top acts

THE Farmhouse will be red hot this week as it prepares to welcome top acts for Three Nights of Fire.

Tomorrow, Mercury Prize nominees The Invisible will perform while Friday's act, the Agnostic Mountain Gospel Choir, come with the recommendation of new-blues king, Seasick Steve. Norwegian stars Casiokids perform Saturday. Tickets see www.thefarmhousecanterbury.co.uk.

Delve into the digital world of an artist

WORK by artist Jacqueline Elson can be seen in a new exhibition at the Bay Art Gallery in Herne Bay.

Opening today, The Digital Collection features digital creations, both abstract and figurative and some with prose. The exhibition runs until Sunday in William Street. The gallery is open from 10am-4pm, admission is free. Call 01227 372266 or visit www.bayartgallery.co.uk.

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Artist Oliver Winconek amazes Canterbury shoppers. Search 'portraits'.



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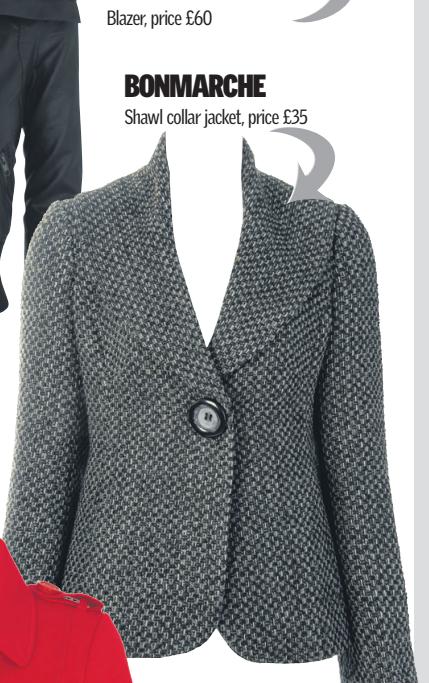
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**JANE NORMAN**

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**DOROTHY PERKINS**

Wool cape, price £70

CANTERBURY SHOPPING**You'll be seeing things in this children's book**

A YOUNG girl must face up to a terrifying apparition in the magical children's book, *Sylvie and the Songman*.

Written by Kent author Tim Binding, the story is an exciting adventure that will captivate readers aged from nine to 14. Released in hardback last year, the beautifully illustrated novel will be available in paperback from tomorrow.

Sylvie and the Songman is published by Corgi Children's and priced at £6.99.

Ozzy Osbourne will be rocking Bluewater

THE Prince of Darkness visits Bluewater this weekend to sign copies of his new autobiography, *I Am Ozzy*.

An unmistakeable rock star and television personality, Ozzy Osbourne has lived an extraordinary life and his story should make remarkable reading. He will be making an appearance at Waterstone's at 1pm on Saturday.

I Am Ozzy, priced at £20, is published by Sphere on tomorrow. For more details about the event call 01322 624831.

Wine master class will be a grape evening

WINE enthusiasts can enjoy some top tippies at a sparkling wine master class in Tunbridge Wells.

Hosted by Spanish sparkling winemaker Codorníu, the event will be led by flamboyant TV wine expert, Joe Wadsack. Participants can taste seven Codorníu products and also learn more about the heritage and qualities of sparkling wine. The event takes place at the Hotel du Vin in Tunbridge Wells on Friday, October 16. To book call 01892 500265.

Get to the core of Kent's apple history

KENT'S heritage as a fruit-growing county is celebrated with a new updated trail guide, *Apple Source*.

Created by Produced in Kent, the free, fold-out guide includes lots of information about the Garden of England's apple-growing history and takes the reader on a three-mile circular walk from Chilham.

The free guide is available at tourist information centres across Kent and can be downloaded online at www.producedinkent.co.uk.

You won't waist money at new online belt shop

UPDATING your wardrobe for a new season can be expensive, but outfits are transformed by a great new belt.

Many people have been tightening their belts during the recession, but a new fashion website is making the accessories fun again. OnceUponABelt.com stocks many belts which are not available from other sellers and, with prices starting at just £10, there is something to suit everyone's budget.

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ON GENERAL RELEASE

AWAY WE GO (15)



Sam Mendes' film paints a vivid portrait of contemporary America and its foibles, as expectant parents leave behind their blissful back-woods home for the sake of their imminent child's prospects.

ADVENTURELAND (15)



In the summer of 1987, a college graduate takes a part-time job in a theme park and sets himself up for heartbreak when he falls for a co-worker who is having a secret affair with the park's handyman.

INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (18)



Quentin Tarantino's war opus is a blood-soaked fairytale set in Nazi-occupied France, divided into five hefty chapters. He splices genres to dizzying effect across its two-and-a-half hours.

The humble origin of a highly evolved career

■ BY SUSAN GRIFFIN

PAUL Bettany has been wowing theatre-goers and independent movie fans for years, but it took his buttock-baring turn as Chaucer in A Knight's Tale for Hollywood bigwigs to sit up and take notice.

He now cites roles in The Da Vinci Code and Oscar-winning movies A Beautiful Mind, where he met his wife Jennifer Connelly, and Master And Commander among his impressive resume. But his latest role has proved his most daunting yet.

In Creation, Bettany plays the revolutionary scientist Charles Darwin, author of arguably the most explosive book in history, On the Origin of Species.

Published 150 years ago, the book was a culmination of more than 20 years of research inspired by his travels as a young man.

In the work, he revealed a scientific explanation for the diversity of species, including the evolution of man, and forever changed the way we view our place in the world.

Creation is based upon Annie's Box, a book written by Darwin's great-great grandson, Randal Keynes.

In it, we see Darwin as a young and vibrant family man – albeit one whose mental and physical health gradually buckles under the weight of guilt and grief for a lost child, his beloved ten-year-old daughter, Annie.

A man torn between his love for his deeply religious wife and his own growing belief in a world where God has no place, Darwin even wrote that by effectively 'killing' God he felt like he was "confessing a murder".

So there's much to talk about as I prepare to interview the 38-year-old actor. Opening a



GHOST: Paul Bettany shadowed Charles Darwin's actual footsteps during the filming at Down House

door, I step into a grand but dimly-lit room. There is shelf upon shelf of books but no sign of Mr Bettany, so I take a seat and only then do I notice the soles of two feet hanging off the end of a line of chairs.

"Um... Paul," the PR says gently and a rather tired looking Bettany pops his head up.

It turns out Bettany is feeling rather poorly but, ever the professional, he takes his seat under the spotlight and ploughs on.

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

yourkenttv.co.uk



His blue eyes may look slightly glassy but even in this exhausted state, Bettany still makes a striking figure. Tall and slim, his hair shaved for a film role but it only maximises his razor-sharp cheekbones.

"Darwin's a bit of a hero of mine. I think he was an extraordinarily brave human being," he says in quiet but well-spoken words. "I like the idea of a person who is a social conservative having this revolutionary idea."

He felt particularly close to his character while filming at Darwin's actual home, Down House in Kent: "It was beautiful. I am not particularly sentimental but I was really moved. I found it extraordinary to walk that walk where a great deal of his thinking was done. You felt a bit like a ghost for a second."

CREATION
Certificate 15

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WOMEN seeking men**MY EVERYTHING**

Ashford based, bubbly and fun single mum, 23yr old, curvy build, Brunette, I like reading and socialising, WLTM like minded male. Box 457472

MATCH OF THE DAY!

Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

NOT YOUR

BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT...
Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5ft1, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105

IS ANYONE OUT THERE?

31yr old easygoing, independent female, WLTM cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life, with friendship and more. Box 428666

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE

Loving loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, fits, no baggage, to the Maidstone area. Box 448471

HORSES FOR COURSES...

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5ft2, blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

GOOD LUCK CHARM

Sporty female, 34, 5ft2, likes the gym, beach walks, Tennis and cycling. WLTM similar male in his 30s for friendship in Eastbourne. Box 453712

A FAIRYTALE ENDING!

Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek, 5ft8, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957

HAPPY DAYS!

Attractive, fun-loving female, 31, 5ft4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME...

Hello I'm 35, petite 5ft3, shoulder length curly hair. I enjoy eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possibly long term relationship. Box 453039

SOUND GOOD?

Hello I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship. Box 447959

SEALED WITH A KISS

Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, wine and dining, laughing, seeks loyal, loving man for friendship and more. Box 453079

STARRY NIGHTS

Hello I'm Sarah, single mum from Kent, brown hair enjoy swimming, nights in/out looking for a caring man to share the best thing in life. Box 878378

HISTORIC MEETING?

Mum of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker. For LTR. Box 446993

SOMETHING LASTING

Professional single mum, 37, own home, looking for a man for friendship, hopefully a permanent relationship. Hailsham Box 455221

BE MINE

Honest and caring woman, 36, 5ft5, slim build, blue eyes. I'm caring, honest and have 4 children. I enjoy drives and horse riding. Maidstone. Box 456159

WAITING FOR YOU

Curvy single mum, 38, 5ft7, romantic, loyal, loving and genuine, likes swimming, theatre, live meals, dining out, seeking a LTR with a like-minded male. Rochester Box 458566

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**LET'S BUILD A ROMANCE**

Hello, I'm Simon 43, single man in Kent own a construction co. Muscular build, blue-eyed, ruggedly handsome. Looking for a honest and genuine lady. Box 453322

FIT AND ACTIVE

Tactile, professional male, 44, financial adviser, medium build, likes keeping fit, very energetic, looking for a lady similar to myself, to have some fun with. Box 872674

LOVE A GOOD TIME

Caring male, 43, separated, seeks female for friendship, company, likes socialising and generally enjoying life, theatre, cinema. WLTM female for potential LT interest! Box 898705

LONG-TERM THING

Caring, romantic, loyal guy, 45, 5ft11, slim/build, brown hair and blue eyes, GSOH, WLTM lady/single man 25-40, slim/medium build. Hastings. Box 451334

THE REAL THING

Phil Mitchell lookalike, 44, 5ft5/blue eyes, NS, loves outdoor life, gardening, yoga, bike rides, animals...separated father of 2...seeks female 35-45, GSOH, compatible with Libra Box 456922

BOTTLE OF WINE

Hi there, I'm an easygoing male, 35, 5ft9, medium build, brown hair, I'm based in Brighton and enjoy seeing friends, drinks, cinema, walks. Box 450165

MY DOOR IS WIDE OPEN

Loving male, 45, looking for a curvy female with a love for antiquities. I've got a passion for 19th century doors. Canterbury Box 458740

FANCY IT?

Man of finer qualities, 54, WLTM mature, attractive, slim woman of substance for quality company, nothing formal. Box 450571

PLEASED TO MEET YOU

Country man, 55, 5ft9, loves animals, full of fun, likes antiques, theatre, pubs, looking for a gay-happy-lucky, slim and active lady. Canterbury Box 458618

THE SIMPLE THINGS IN LIFE

Divorced sporty guy, 56, 5ft11, slim, modern dresser, own home, easy-going, tactile, likes to laugh, looking for a feminine woman for love. Box 878848

AS YOUNG AS YOU FEEL!

Hello! I'm a male, mid 50s, feel/act younger! I'm a smoker, live by sea, enjoy meals out, golf, driving, holidays. Westgate-on-Sea. Box 455652

HERE TO BE WITH YOU

Genuine, kind, affectionate male, 61, slim-medium build, 5ft11, fully domesticated! Enjoys gardening, cooking, reading, country pubs; looking for my soulmate. Box 446624

LOVER OF LIFE

Fit, good-looking, tall modest gent, 63, 6ft3", loyal, NS, drives, home owner, dog lover, likes coast, countryside and evenings out, searching for a like-minded lady. Box 871492

Men

seeking men

MUTUAL ATTRACTION

36 year old man, 5ft10, blue eyes, shaved head, enjoys pubs, clubs, staying in, looking for a loyal male, to have fun times with. Box 430380

FUN-LOVING

New-to-town male, 41, 5ft10, looking for a gay or bi male, 30-55, for friendship, romance, hopefully LTF. Box 450367

FULL STEAM AHEAD!

Rochester male, kind, genuine, 50yrs, likes steam railways, cooking, country walks, history, reading, looking for that someone special Box 429211

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No time to sleep when in Seattle

■ BY TOM MORGAN

SEATTLE, it is said, is a city where salmon swim upstream in the middle of town and bald eagles share the sky with aeroplanes.

Our whistle-stop tour of the entire state began in the city, whose defining landmark – despite the tourist information pack's vision of spawning fish and rare birds of prey – is probably the Space Needle building, which dwarfs all that it surrounds.

However, it's the 100-year-old Pike Place Market, a bustling food centre near the city's harbour, that gives the region its lifeblood.

Bustling food stalls are often the most photogenic of settings, but this one is an assault on the senses, with vivid colours, eardrum-bursting shrieks from market traders and smells that linger across the city. From elite restaurants frequented by Hollywood star Robin Williams to market stalls lined with bargains, it is a veritable feast for even the most demanding foodie.

Even when you leave the city, you needn't look far for your next bite. Surrounded by a fishing harbour and vast fertile countryside within an hour's drive, it is not hard to see how Pike Place became a success.

Located in the Pacific Northwest, Seattle is surrounded on all sides by the windswept waters of Puget Sound.

Touring could not be easier, with boat cruises, open-top buses and monorails among the options. A favourite, if somewhat indulgent, choice is a short sightseeing flight with Kenmore Air (www.kenmoreair.com).

The trip takes you across the surprisingly Metropolis-like city towards the sprawling millionaire waterfront pads, including Bill Gates' extravagant home.



STUNNING VIEW: From the sprawl of the city to countryside explorations, there's lots to keep you busy in Seattle

And tourists who can tear themselves away from the city are also in for a pleasant surprise. Washington State, blessed with spectacular natural assets, has added to its lure by offering an enticing combination of fine local wine and produce.

We travelled to the town of Spokane on a short internal flight and stayed in the welcoming boutique setting of Hotel Lusso. After an artery-busting breakfast on a train carriage at Frank's Diner, our escape to the countryside was welcome.

Talk to anyone in rural Washington, and they are likely to bend your ear about wine.

The region struggles to compete commercially with California, but locals are tremendously proud of their vineyards, which have nearly

doubled in size in the past five years.

Tasting trips can take you to Richland and Walla Walla, where you will drink more than enough to make you an overnight connoisseur.

After the fine wines and fresh local produce, including spectacular cheeses, you will be more than ready for a little exercise.

Our solution was to take to the water in kayaks. The instructor from Spokane's Parks and Recreation (tel: +001 509 625 6200) who guided us through the idyllic Little Spokane River, was as calm as the tranquil waters we followed downstream.

With the sun beating down on us, we barely realised we had passed an entire afternoon as we paddled our way through the region's rich, lush grassland.

FACT FILE: WASHINGTON STATE

Time difference	- 8 hours (GMT)
Capital	Olympia
Language	English
Population	About 6.6 million
Currency	£1 = approx US \$1.6
Religion	Christian
Largest city	Seattle

Travel facts

- Tom Morgan was a guest of Seattle and Washington State Tourism, and flew with KLM from London. KLM flies daily ex-Heathrow to Seattle from £419 return. KLM reservations: 0871 222 7474 and www.klm.com.

- Tour operators to the region include Bon Voyage, which offers ten-night fly-drives from £629 for October 2009-May 2010 departures, including flights and car hire.

Bon Voyage reservations: 0800 316 0191
America As You Like It offers seven nights in Seattle and Washington State from £870 (two sharing), incl flights and car hire.

As You Like It reservations: 020 8742 8299 and www.americaasyoulikeit.com.

- For Seattle & Washington State enquiries call 020 7978 5233 or visit www.visitseattle.org or www.experiencecwa.com.



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- FOOD & DRINK FAYRE under marquees on Victoria Gardens by the bandstand overlooking Viking Bay in the centre of Broadstairs, Friday to Sunday 2nd - 4th October, quality hot & cold food will be available as well as Kentish wine, ales, ciders, & fruit juices
- Afternoon entertainment on the Bandstand

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Visit the food festival website for details on how to enter



Still the nation of gazumpers

■ BY NICK AMES

A STUDY has found that gazumping continues to be a significant issue in the UK property market.

Despite the slow sales that have been such a feature of the property downturn, more than one person in 10 who responded to a question about sales being hijacked at the last minute said they had been a victim of such actions.

And more than one in five said that if the opportunity arose for them to pursue a last-minute sale at the expense of another purchaser, they would do so without taking anyone else's feelings into consideration.

Gazumping happens when someone makes an offer on a property that is agreed to, only for someone to come in at the last minute and make the purchase with a higher offer.

It works because any agreement between buyer and seller is not recognised in law until a contract has been signed.

It is the period between when an offer is made and when a contract is signed that creates room for gazumping, with the original buyer losing out if they will not beat the later offer.

The figures mean home-buyers could be forking out up to £290 million annually in pointless surveys, searches and lawyers' fees when they are gazumped at the last hurdle, according to a new study from leading independent personal finance website Fool.co.uk.



BAD NEWS DAY: Research shows that one in five of us are happy to shatter the dreams of other home-buyers

From a survey of 2,000 of its readers, Fool.co.uk – which was looking at malpractice within the industry – found that 12 per cent had been gazumped over the past year.

More startlingly, 22 per cent revealed they

would attempt to gazump a sale if they could, and the property were desirable enough, with 11 per cent describing it as a "necessary evil".

Gazumping is especially a problem for first-time buyers, who are unlikely to have the

available capital to match a gazumping bid, especially when more than 10 per cent of the UK property market is now powered by buy-to-let operations with deeper pockets.

According to Alison Hunt at Fool.co.uk, there are some basic steps that a buyer can attempt to make to prevent gazumping:

1. Insist the property is removed from the market.
2. Sell your property before buying another.
3. Exchange contracts as quickly as possible.
4. Maintain a good relationship with the seller.
5. Work with agents on an exclusive basis.

In the meantime, buyers are warned to be aware of the risk of being gazumped, though as house prices stall, and sales volume stalls, property-buyers may be increasingly less likely to suffer from being gazumped.

David Kuo, head of personal finance at Fool.co.uk, said: "For many people, the purchase of a house will probably be the biggest single acquisition they will ever make.

"It can take months of searching to find the ideal home and anything that dashes the dream can be emotionally draining, especially if it is the result of being gazumped.

"But it's not only emotions that get hurt when you are gazumped – finances can take a battering, too.

"Consequently, it is important to minimise the chances of being gazumped, though it is not possible to eliminate the risk completely.

"It is sometimes said that gazumping is the price we pay for free-market competition."

PROPERTY NEWS

Confidence grows as investors back property

ALMOST half of UK consumers believe that buying property is the best way to invest money.

In a study by Scottish Widows, 48 per cent of those polled said investing in property was the best way to maximise returns on hard-earned cash.

This figure is a significant increase on 12 months ago, when just 28 per cent of those surveyed cited property as the best choice of investment.

Commenting on the results, Jason Butler of Bloomsbury Financial Planning said investors should avoid "backing one horse", adding that there was no such thing as a "best investment".

He acknowledged that many investors "want to invest in [property] over and above other investments".

However, he warned that investors looking to build their property portfolio should proceed with caution because the property market fluctuates depending on the borrowing options available.

Lower deposit boost for FTBs

FIRST-TIME buyers will be happy to learn that mortgage-lenders are now asking for lower deposits.

According to Mortgageforce, the average deposit required in August was 21.25 per cent – down from 25 per cent the previous month.

The move is regarded as a sign that confidence is returning after months of gloom.

Katie Tucker, Mortgageforce technical manager, said: "More generous deals are available – the ongoing stability of house prices reduces the risk of negative equity and repossession that lenders are keen to avoid, so we should see more accommodating terms."

However, Ms Tucker also advises borrowers to be clear about the difference between 'discount' and 'tracker' loans, explaining that discount rates do not follow the base rate.

They are instead linked to bank and building society standard variable rates, which can be changed at the lender's whim.

In related news, prospective buyers should be aware that from January next year, stamp duty will be reintroduced on properties over £125,000.

This time last year, the Government opted to increase the stamp duty threshold from £125,000 to £175,000.

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WHITSTABLE £285,000

- Three bedroom end terrace
- Access to seafront & town
- No forward chain



WHITSTABLE £210,000

- 3 Bedroom family semi
- Access to town & station
- Large garden, some work required



WHITSTABLE £230,000

- Three bedroom semi bungalow
- Lounge and kitchen/diner
- Tended gardens and parking



WHITSTABLE £199,995

- 2 Bedroom detached bungalow
- Generous garden, parking and garage
- Some TLC required, no forward chain



WHITSTABLE £199,995

- 3 Bedroom end Terrace with office
- Versatile accommodation
- Popular conservation area



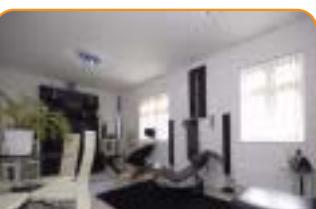
WHITSTABLE £297,000

- Modern 3 bedroom town house
- Master en suite, fitted kitchen
- Courtyard garden, parking at rear



WHITSTABLE £132,500

- Close to Whitstable town & amenities
- 2 Bedroom first floor flat
- Well presented, no chai



HERNE BAY £149,995

- Stylish, modern 2 bed apartment
- Luxury accommodation, en suite shower
- New development, allocated parking



HERNE BAY £155,000

- Price Guide From £155,000 - £165,000
- Modern 2 bed end terrace house
- Stylish accom, Allocated parking



HERNE BAY £170,000

- Semi-detached Bungalow in Herne Bay
- 2/3 Bedrooms, excellent potential
- 50' private garden, gated parking



HERNE BAY £234,995

- Elegant four bedroomeed Town House
- Exclusive gated development in Beltinge
- 2 en suites, stylish accommodation



HERNE BAY £260,000

- Well presented 3 bed detached bungalow
- Sought-after location nr Sea in Bishopstone
- En suite, stylish accom



HERNE BAY £275,000

- Exceptional extended four bed house
- Stylish accommodation, conservatory
- Beltinge location, en suite, ample parking



HERNE BAY £94,995

- Purpose built fff
- Double bedroom
- Totally Chain free!!!



HERNE BAY £162,500

- 2/3 beds chalet bungalow
- Versatile accommodation
- Decent gdn, driveway



HERNE BAY £189,995

- Sought after spot - rarely available
- First floor extension - 3 beds
- Drive and garage



HERNE BAY £225,000

- Chocolate box 2 bedroom cottage
- Just along from the sea
- Chain Free Sale!!!



HERNE BAY £225,000

- 4 Bedrooms and 2 bathrooms!
- Beautifully presented throughout
- Well worthy of internal inspection!



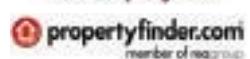
HERNE BAY £189,995

- Large Victorian Terrace family home
- Beautiful modern interior
- Close to the beach!!



HERNE BAY £209,995

- Detached Family Home
- Catchement of Herne Bay High School
- Beautiful conservatory

WHITSTABLE HERNE BAY CANTERBURY
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contact

HERNE BAY £75,000

- 1 Bed Basement Flat
- Private Garden & Entrance
- No Chain



HERNE BAY £129,995

- 2 Bedroom Split Level Flat
- Central Location + Great Condition
- View Today



HERNE BAY £159,994

- 3 Bed EOT
- Parking + Conservatory
- Great Condition - View Today



HERNE BAY £164,995

- 'The Old Bakery' built circa 1880!!
- Two double bedrooms
- Enclosed side courtyard



HERNE BAY £189,999

- 3 Bed Semi Detached Bungalow
- Good Condition + Parking
- View Today



HERNE BAY £219,995

- 3 Bed Detached Home
- Popular Residential Location
- Convenient For Train Station



HERNE BAY £299,999

- Stunning 4 bedroom family home
- Cul-de-sac location, 19' kitchen
- High spec, must be viewed



WHITSTABLE £289,995

- Detached 3 bed bungalow
- deceptive living accommodation
- 47'x33' rear garden



CHESTFIELD £279,995

- 3 bedroom detached bungalow
- immaculate order through out
- 52' x 42' rear garden



DARGATE £339,995

- 4/5 bedroom chalet house
- 155'x62' rear garden
- substantial family home



SEASALTER £249,995

- 3 bed detached bungalow with annex
- 49' x 35' rear garden
- immaculate through out



WHITSTABLE £239,995

- 3 bedroom detached bungalow
- 104' rear garden
- walking distance of the mainline station



WHITSTABLE £249,995

- 4 bed detached chalet bungalow
- 47' x 50' rear garden
- spacious living accommodation



WHITSTABLE £219,950

- 3 bed detached family home
- 2 reception rooms
- tucked away in a cul de sac



SOUTH TANKERTON £199,995

- extended 2 bed detached bungalow
- garage and driveway
- 2 reception rooms



WHITSTABLE £199,995

- 3 bed detached house
- garage and workshop
- close to all amenities



WHITSTABLE £199,995

- extended 3 bed chalet semi-detached
- enclosed rear garden
- well maintained through out



WHITSTABLE £169,995

- modern 2 bed ground floor apartment
- walking distance of the town
- courtyard garden & parking



SWALECLIFFE £149,995

- 2 Bed semi-detached
- 33' rear garden
- close to all amenities



WHITSTABLE £149,995

- 3 bedroom semi-detached
- close to all amenities
- good size living accommodation



WHITSTABLE £155,000

- 3 Bed Semi Detached House
- Low Maintenance Garden
- Within Reach of all Amenities

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**WINCHEAP £165,000**

Immaculate two bedroom terrace. Two good size bedrooms, spacious lounge/diner, first floor bathroom, modern fitted kitchen, gas fired central heating, double glazing and south facing garden.

**UPSTREET £289,950 each**

Detached 3 double bedrooms, bathroom, separate ensuite, 2 reception rooms, country style fitted kitchens with appliances, highly efficient heating systems, double garages, large gardens, NHBC guarantee

**Wincheap £162,500**

Modern two bedroom house close to City Centre. Lounge, fitted kitchen, cloakroom, fitted bathroom, gas fired central heating, double glazing, rear garden, parking for two cars and garage. No forward chain involved

**CITY CENTRE £199,995**

City Centre cottage two reception rooms both with open fireplaces, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom, two bedrooms, further third bedroom, central heating, rear garden with views of park.

**STURRY £189,995**

Generously sized house with two reception rooms, specialist kitchen, two bedrooms, fitted bathroom, attractive centre staircase with many character features, central heating, garden and no chain involved.

**CHARTHAM DOWNS £115,000**

Purpose built one bedroom apartment, luxury fittings throughout with fitted kitchen and appliances, en suite bathroom, designed and built by Abbotts Construction. No forward chain involved.

**CANTERBURY OIEO £360,000**

Terrific property forms part of a small but prestigious development. The property comprises four/five bedrooms, lounge, dining room, kitchen, large conservatory, gardens, double garage.

**SOUTH CANTERBURY £219,995**

Superb ground floor apartment set within an exclusive development. Lounge/diner, luxury fitted kitchen, contemporary styled bathroom, two bedrooms, communal gardens, allocated parking and no forward chain.

**STURRY £179,995**

Four bedroom family home with rear double storey extension, dining room, separate lounge, fitted kitchen, cloakroom, separate utility room, en suite shower room, family bathroom and garden.

**CHARTHAM £164,950**

Two bedroom cottage with lounge, fitted kitchen, garden room, small cellar, plenty of storage, bathroom, many character features, wood burning stove, south facing rear garden, parking for car and no forward chain involved.

**ST DUNSTANS £345,000**

City Centre penthouse apartment 1900 sq.ft. with three bedrooms, two en suites, luxury bathroom, stylish fitted kitchen with appliances. PART EXCHANGE AVAILABLE,

**CANTERBURY OIEO £140,000**

Three bedroom, two reception room home or four letable rooms. Downstairs cloakroom, enclosed rear garden, ideally suited to first time buyers and investors alike.

**ROUGH COMMON £199,950**

Individual designed purpose built duplex apartment, accommodation comprising of utility cupboard, fitted kitchen, large lounge with mezzanine floor over, two bedrooms, en suite fitted bathroom, separate shower room, large balcony

**PETHAM £435,000**

This property has been improved extended to a very high standard and consists of cloakroom, lounge, conservatory/garden room, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with a separate 1 bedroom annexe with luxury bathroom and kitchen, garden, heated swimming pool.

**CHARTHAM HATCH £465,000**

Two separate bungalows with first bungalow comprising of four bedrooms, two reception rooms, fitted bathroom, large reception hallway and the second bungalow with large lounge, two bedrooms, fitted kitchen, fitted bathroom, both excellent condition throughout.

Canterbury 0845 3703037

57 Castle Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2PY
canterburysales@regal-estates.co.uk



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**CHARTHAM £115,000**

One bedroom period cottage in village location. Ideal holiday home or investment in rural location yet only three miles from the city.

**ICKHAM £259,995**

Immaculate three bedroom semi detached property. Bright and airy accommodation throughout, two receptions, fitted kitchen, utility room, separate breakfast room, lean-to, family bathroom, large gardens.

**UPPER HARBLEDOWN £189,995**

Generously sized period cottage, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, large fitted bathroom, enviable location, only a short distance from the City Centre and no forward chain involved.

**CANTERBURY £210,000**

Immaculate two year old property, never fully occupied, therefore the condition is top spec. Double aspect lounge, luxury fitted kitchen, two good size bedrooms, contemporary style bathroom suite, good size rear and side gardens, NHBC guarantee.

**SOUTH CANTERBURY £140,000**

Three double bedroom purpose built flat, potential investment opportunity, gas fired central heating, double glazing, lounge, kitchen, fitted bathroom, separate WC and no chain involved.

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Wingham

We are pleased to offer for sale this two bedroom semi detached cottage situated in the village of Wingham. Accommodation lounge with open fire, kitchen, downstairs bathroom.

Canterbury Office

£175,000

01227 457253



Faversham £350,000 OPEN DAY SATURDAY 3rd October, please call for details

Three bedroom detached former police house in the village of Selling with open fireplaces and Raeburn, and ample off road parking.

Faversham Office

01795 538112



Canterbury OIEO £50,000

A well presented first floor one bedroom retirement flat with Warden Assistance. Accommodation entrance hall, bathroom, sitting room and kitchen. Within the block is a lift.

Canterbury Office 01227 457253



Canterbury £149,950

No chain - We are pleased to offer for sale this two bedroom. The property consists of an entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/diner. Family bathroom with separate WC.

Canterbury Office 01227 457253

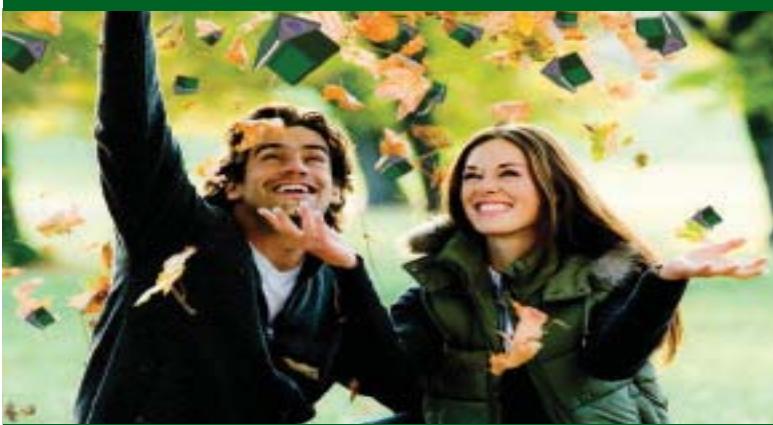


Boughton-under-Blean £124,950

No Onward Chain!! A three bedroom semi-detached house in a village location also offering conservatory, fitted kitchen and front and rear gardens.

Faversham Office 01795 538112

Now is the right time **to sell...**



Instruct us and everything will fall into place!



Chartham Hatch OIEO £130,000

Two bedroom extended house ideal for investment. The property consists of a lounge/kitchen, downstairs bathroom. Other benefits includes gardens and central heating.

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Bridge OIEO £150,000

Two Bedroom Cottage. Located In The Ever Popular Village Of Bridge. Lounge/Dining Room. First Floor Bathroom. Attic Room.

Canterbury Office 01227 457253



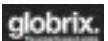
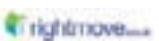
Faversham £299,999

A three bedroom period property also offering two reception rooms, study/bedroom 4 and an attractive mature rear garden.

Faversham Office 01795 538112

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- Three bedroom
- Semi detached house,
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- Off road parking for two cars,
- Backing onto open fields.

£179,995

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Chartham Hatch

- 4 bedroom detached home
 - Chartham Hatch location
 - Wealth of accommodation
- £499,995**

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Canterbury

- six bedroom detached house.
 - Double garage.
 - Southside location. No chain.
- OIEO £450,000**

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Canterbury

- four bedroom extended
 - 1930's detached home
 - Mature rear garden, Garage and driveway.
- OIEO £400,000**

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Fordwich

- 4 bedroom Lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility room, Cloakroom, bathroom, ensuite shower room.
- OIEO £350,000**

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Canterbury

- 4 bedroom bungalow,
 - Third of an acre paddock,
 - Village location, No chain.
- OIEO £320,000**

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Canterbury

- Three bedroom bungalow
 - Offered with no chain Open plan lounge/diner, Kitchen, bathroom
- £229,500**

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Canterbury

- Two bedroom apartment Lounge, dining area and kitchen, En-suite to master and bathroom. Double glazing, central heating.
- £220,000**

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Sturry

- Three bedroom semi-detached
 - Chalet bungalow. Ground floor master bedroom. Garage & off road parking.
- £185,000**

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Birchington

- Two bedroom terraced home
 - Lounge, dining room.
 - Kitchen.
- OIEO £165,000**

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Canterbury

- Two bedroom semi detached house,
 - Off road parking for Double glazing and Gas fired central heating.
- £115,000**

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One bedroom ground floor flat comprising kitchen, bathroom/WC and lounge. central heating, double glazing.	A three bedroom house also offering cloakroom, lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, bathroom, gardens.	Purpose built second floor flat complete with verandah. Benefits include gas central heating.	Two bedroom house. Fully fitted kitchen, lounge, conservatory, cloakroom , bathroom.	A two bedroom semi-detached house also offering fitted kitchen, conservatory, rear gardens.
Bridge	Old Wives Lees	Canterbury	Blean	Wingham
OIEO £234,995	£249,950	£260,000	£319,500	£395,000
Three bedroom house. The accommodation comprises two receptions, fitted kitchen.	Gardens. Lounge, cloakroom, kitchen / diner, utility room, Bed 4 / study, three further bedrooms, bathroom.	Six bedroom house currently let earning £65pw for double bedrooms and £52pw for two single bedrooms.	Three bedroom detached house. Two reception rooms + conservatory. Utility room and dark room.	Versatile accommodation including a two storey annex, gardens, garage, gas fired central heating.

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Herne Bay | Price Range: £350,000-£375,000

- 5 Bedroom Period Detached Family Home
- 30' Conservatory, Driveway and Garage
- Gardens, Lounge, Dining Room and Conservatory

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Boughton-Under-Blean | Price Range: £340,000-£380,000

- Charming Grade II Listed 3 Bedroom Home
- 27' Lounge, 15' Dining Room, Modern Kitchen
- Cloakroom, Ensuite, Parking, 2/3 Acre Plot

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Herne Bay | Price Range: £260,000-£290,000

- Extended 1960's Detached Family Home
- Kitchen / Family Room, Separate Utility Room
- Downstairs Shower Room, Established Gardens

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Whitstable | Price: £250,000

- Panoramic Sea Views
- 3 Bedrooms. Backing On To Beach
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room/Lounge

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Blean | Price Range: £240,000-£270,000

- 3 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- 2 Receptions, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Small Study, Garage & Parking

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Herne Bay | Price Range: £230,000-£255,000

- Extended 4 Bedroom Detached Home
- En-suite to Master Bedroom
- Outstanding Fitted Kitchen Garage

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Whitstable | Price Range: £195,000-£215,000

- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached, Garage
- Unspoilt Views Across Countryside
- Close Proximity To Local Shops

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Sturry | Price: £160,000

- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow
- Cul de Sac Location, Beautiful Gardens
- Off Street Parking, Garage

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Whitstable | Price Range: £149,000-£165,000

- 2 Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow
- Refurbished & Decorated
- Conservatory, Modern Kitchen

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Faversham: 01795 535517

Whitstable: 01227 772272

LETTINGS: 01227 361740



YOUR MOVE

This is our view of the current property market

We don't talk the market down - we look for ways to make the market work for our customers. We know that it will be full of challenges and we look forward to every one of them.

The property market is looking up now – and so are we.

EAR8057 06/2009

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PROPERTIES
WANTED**

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- Family Bathroom

STURRY £350,000



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- Refurbished • Three Receptions
- Fitted Kitchen • Three Bedrooms

CHARTHAM £275,000



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- Grade 2 Listed & 15th Century
- Garden • Four Bedrooms

AYLESHAM £92,995



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- In Need Of Refurbishment
- Two Bedrooms • Lounge/Diner

ADISHAM £112,500



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- Rural Location • Ground Floor Flat
- Two Bedrooms • Rear Garden

PETHAM £129,995



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- Kitchen • For Residents 55 & Over
- Two Bedrooms • Ensuite

SNOWDOWN £165,000



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- Three Bedroom Family Home • Two Receptions • Fitted Kitchen

CANTERBURY £215,000



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- No Onward Chain • Two Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms

HERNE BAY £234,995



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- Some Sea views • Across From Seafront • Three Bedrooms

HERNE BAY £215,995



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- Three Bedrooms • Living Room/ Dining Room • Off Road

HERNE BAY £179,995



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- Extended Property • Fitted Kitchen • Open Planned Living Room/Dining

HERNE BAY £189,995



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- Semi Detached House • Extended Property • Four Bedrooms

HERNE BAY £129,995



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- Ground Floor Flat • One Bedroom
- Reception Area • Living Room

HERNE BAY £189,995



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- Semi Detached House • Three Bedrooms • Parking/Garage

HERNE BAY £89,995



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- Ground Floor Flat • Purpose Built
- One Bedroom • Bathroom W.C.

HERNE BAY £184,995



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- Three Bedrooms • Off Street Parking • Living Room/Dining

WHITSTABLE £225,000



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- Ground Floor Flat • Purpose Built
- Two Bedrooms • Bathroom W.C.

WHITSTABLE £169,995



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MOTORS NEWS



Baby Land Rover given the green light to roll

LAND Rover has confirmed it will press the production button on its exciting LRX concept (pictured) – it goes on sale in 2011.

Billed as the “smallest, lightest and most efficient vehicle” LR has ever produced, it will slot in below the current Freelander and is tipped to offer greener technologies including a hybrid powertrain option. It will also guarantee the future of the newly-formed Jaguar Land Rover group’s production plant at Halewood, Merseyside.



Hybrids can be fun as Peugeot aims to show

PEUGEOT is not only readying a diesel-electric hybrid for sale, but also pitching the idea that hybrids can be fun.

The type will debut in the French marque's new Nissan Qashqai-bashing 3008, launched initially in conventional mode next month, but the RCZ Coupé hybrid concept spin-off pictured here raises the pulse more than most hybrids.

It has 200bhp from electrically driven rear wheels and a diesel front end, yet averages nearly 80mpg and evades road tax with just 95g/km of CO2 emissions.



Focus wins again – this time as star used buy

BRITAIN'S best-selling motor has also won a major accolade from the influential What Car? Used Car of the Year 2009 awards.

The Ford Focus, in 1.6 Zetec Climate form, took the ‘best small family car’ title for its economy and reputation for reliability. The judging panel said: “There’s good head and legroom in the front and back, and room for five people. The boot is a generous size and easy to load; fold down the rear seats and you can move masses of stuff.”



DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION: Launched in 2003, the current 5-Series styling remains controversial, however BMW's big seller handles beautifully and continues to tick the right boxes

BMW star continues to wear badge with pride

FOR years, the BMW 5-Series held pride of place in the management suite. But a new recruit with a familiar name has upset the seating plan.

This upstart is Jaguar's stunning new XF and, all of a sudden, even the big selling BMW 520d – the number one aspirational manager's motor, which outsells all other 5-Series models put together – looks like history... Or does it?

Launched in 2003, current 5-Series styling remains controversial and, while this has helped maintain freshness, previews of a looming replacement suggest a comeback for BMW conservatism.

Whatever you think of the car's looks though, the proof of the pudding is in the eating and summarised by a car loving mate of mine who described his 520d as: “The best bloody company car I've ever had”; this from someone who has enjoyed a succession of six-cylinder Audis and BMWs, including a much missed previous generation 523i.

My overriding impression was the 520d's ability to cope with everything thrown at it thanks to an engine that pulls like a train

ROAD TEST BMW 5-SERIES

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

when needed, while sipping fuel when driven sensibly, all helped by a beautifully weighted six-speed gearbox.

A mid-life facelift added some of BMW's EfficientDynamics technology; energy recovery from braking now tops-up the battery to prevent the alternator sapping engine power.

As usual, official fuel figures are optimistic, but averaging nearly 50mpg is not unreasonable unless you exploit the engine's low-mid range punch and amazing poise for such a big car (0-62mph in 8.3 seconds); balance and economy is helped by all-aluminium bodywork ahead of the windscreen. It will hustle along country lanes making about as much fuss as it does when quietly cruising motorways.

The cabin is spacious and typically well-arranged, if clinical, and now features a more user-friendly sounds/navigation/technology interface than on launch models.

Leather is a £1,340 ‘must have’ extra to an otherwise attractive £27,430 price for an entry level 5-Series that is a long way from petrol 518i ‘poverty spec’ models of past generations, when snobby company car users would ask for the boot badge to be deleted from their order – ‘520d’, on the other hand, may be worn with pride.



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USED CAR ROUND-UP:

OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

FORD FIESTA



FORD'S hugely successful supermini has marched on with a new model launched in late 2008, but don't expect weaker used prices; the credit crunch, rising fuel prices and draconian road taxes have made the Fiesta a top target for its reliability, decent driving experience, engines to suit all pockets and three and five-door body styles. Ford has also regularly produced special and limited editions laden with extra goodies, offering plenty more choice - there's even a hot ST model.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

BRITAIN'S FAVOURITE SUPERMINIS

AS more people downsize their car, fuel and road tax bills, chances are that one or all of the following popular used superminis will be on their shopping list. Year in, year out they are the UK's most consistent best-sellers - a growing trend in the current economic climate. The trio are also excellent all-rounders, but a word of warning: second-hand car prices are robust at present so don't pay more than it would cost to keep your old car longer or trade up to a new car.

RENAULT CLIO



DOWNSIZING can be sensible and chic with the Clio and the most recent generations have married durability and driving fun with Gallic charm. Again, the option of three or five doors is a big selling point, but our French contender also has the bonus of excellent diesel versions, though the cost of the actual fuel versus petrol argues against it currently. The Clio design has tended to be highly practical as well as charming, with good space for rear passengers.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

VAUXHALL CORSA



VAUXHALL'S Corsa was created to attack the Fiesta, yet has never quite achieved the volumes of its rival. Nevertheless, it offers similar virtues, plus a greater range of engines including a punchy and frugal three-cylinder petrol engine now in greater demand due to these straitened times. Several generations of Corsa followed a 'teardrop' body style, but the latest car is bigger and more aggressively sculpted - almost a 'supersize supermini' - with a sporty VXR version too.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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Miss S Spratley,
Pent Valley Technology College
Surrenden Road, Folkestone
Kent CT19 4ED
Email: samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk
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Post 2: Sunday 9:30am - 4:30pm; Monday-Thursday 4:00pm - 7:00pm.

(Some flexibility of actual working times is required with potential for future increase of these hours)

The ideal candidates should be self motivated, responsive to demand, capable of working under pressure and on their own initiative as required. Formal qualifications in DIY and grounds maintenance are not essential; however, candidates should be able to demonstrate a practical aptitude for general building/grounds maintenance.

The posts require some clerical administrative undertaking. Primary responsibility of the roles will be to support and assist the activities of the site team and the on-site lettings during both evenings and weekends.

Please visit www.thomasaveling.co.uk for further details of the post and an application form.

Closing date for applications: Monday 12th October 2009

Short-listed candidates only will be contacted for interview which will take place on Monday 19th October 2009

The Thomas Aveling School is: - an Equal opportunities Employer

- committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for all successful applicants.

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For an application pack please contact Human Resources Department, telephone 01843 227561, email:

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PUBLIC NOTICES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Abode Canterbury, High Street, Canterbury**
Applicant: **Declan Kelly**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone,
Kent, ME14 1XX



PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Ian Midson of The Linen Store, White Horse Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2RY has applied to Canterbury City Council for the variation of the extension of last entry from 23.00 to 01.00 for the premises The Linen Store situated at White Horse Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2RY

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at <http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing> or at Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW tel. 01227 862000 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Any person wishing to submit representations to my/our application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 22 October 2009

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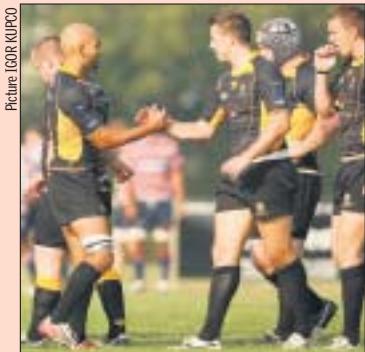
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IN FORM: Canterbury scored six tries

Bay suffer back to back league defeats

HERNE Bay's good start to the season came to an end as they lost twice in four days.

After their unbeaten run was emphatically ended in a 4-2 defeat to leaders Faversham last Wednesday, Bay went down 2-0 at Greenwich Borough on Saturday.

Danny Hunt scored a second half brace for Borough, which saw Barry Morgan's side slip to third.

Bay put their league ambitions to one side this weekend when they continue their FA Vase campaign. A 4-0 win against Farnham Town earlier this month set them up with a tasty derby against fellow Kent League side Hythe Town. Kick-off at Winch's Field is at 3pm.



INTERNATIONAL: Kent's St Lawrence Ground

Pakistan to play at Kent ground in 2010

THE St Lawrence Ground will host a three-day game against Pakistan next summer.

The reigning world Twenty20 champions will play Kent in June at the beginning of their tour to England. They will be the second international team to visit in less than a year, following on from Australia's game against England Lions at Canterbury last month.

Paul Millman, Kent's chief executive, said: "This is great news for Kent. Pakistan supporters are passionate about cricket and I'm sure that the match will generate a bumper crowd."

"I'm sure the people of Kent will come out in force to watch some of the finest international cricketers on show at the St Lawrence Ground."



Kiwi fly-half impresses as city crush Crusaders

Canterbury 42 Dings Crusaders 15

CANTERBURY took maximum points for the second successive game as they swept Dings Crusaders aside to move third in National 2 South.

Danny Vaughan's side ran in six tries in total thanks to a purple patch in the second half, which maintained Canterbury's 100 per cent record against Dings at Merton Lane.

New signing Phil Gibson made his debut and the New Zealand-born fly-half impressed with a good all-round display capped by 15 points, which saw him named man-of-the-match.

RUGBY

The first half was a tight affair and gave little indication of the final outcome. Canterbury got off to a flier when Mark Livesey crashed over for a try in the first two minutes.

Dings kicked a penalty, which was cancelled out by Gibson's boot. The hosts then moved further ahead with a slick passing move which finished with Mike Melford popping the ball out for Gibson to score.

A mistake in midfield just before half-time allowed the visitors to score their first try,

narrowing the deficit to 16-8 at the break.

Canterbury began the second half quickly and got their reward when scrum-half Nicky Woodbridge touched down after good work from the forwards.

The game was virtually ended as a contest just before the hour with a terrific individual effort from Carlton Littlechild.

Peter Kelly and Rob Keir also scored tries, sandwiching Dings' second of the afternoon to complete the scoring.

Canterbury face arguably their toughest test of the season this Saturday when they visit Ealing.

Picture: ADY KERRY



DEFEAT: Kent's season ended in a heavy defeat in the Pro40 on Sunday after they fielded a team of experienced players like Azhar Mahmood (left) mixed with youngsters such as wicketkeeper Paul Dixey



Picture: ADY KERRY

Kent end season with defeat in Pro40 and championship

KENT'S season ended with defeat as they lost to Northamptonshire at the St Lawrence Ground in the final Pro40 game of the season on Sunday.

The 99-run defeat ended Kent's hopes of claiming the £25,000 prize money for finishing second in Division Two as they were outplayed by the visitors.

With outgoing director of cricket Graham Ford returning to South Africa on Friday, new coach Paul Farbrace took over the reins for the first time. He stuck with the same youthful squad which had performed in the competition this season.

The Spitfires were on the back foot from the very beginning as ex-Kent wicketkeeper Niall O'Brien (72) and Stephen Peters (47) put on 101 in the first 12 overs.

Rob White hit an unbeaten 70 to keep the pressure on as the Steelbacks reached 244 for

CRICKET

■ BY YOURCANTERBURY REPORTER

6. James Hockley and James Tredwell returned the best figures, taking two wickets apiece.

Needing more than a run-a-ball for victory, the Spitfires laboured under the pressure. Sam Northeast (9) and Alex Blake (0) departed early and despite a half-century from Hockley and an entertaining 36 from Azhar Mahmood, Kent never looked capable pulling off a successful run chase.

Kent's County Championship season also ended on a low note with an innings defeat against Gloucestershire on Friday. With the Division Two title already in the bag, there was little to play for and Kent used the game to blood some of their youngsters.

Northeast seized his chance by hitting a maiden first-class century with an unbeaten 128 in the second innings.

Matt Coles had a baptism of fire on his debut at Bristol. The 18-year-old was expensive when asked to bowl by skipper Rob Key, going for 130 runs from his 17 overs, but he did claim his first two wickets in the process when Chris Taylor and Anthony Ireland were sent back to the pavilion.

The former Maplesden Noakes schoolboy, who is in his last year on the Kent Academy, said it was a special moment making his championship debut and one that will help further his career development.

"It was a pretty tough start, but I thought I bowled reasonably well considering the pitch was so flat," he told Yourcanterbury. "It has been a learning curve being whacked around and hopefully one that I will come back from a better bowler."

"I was just trying to think about it as being just another game of cricket but with a name on your back if I'm honest. I know I am good enough to play at this level, I just need to back myself."

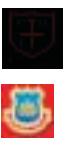
Oystermen boss asks for a reaction after FA Cup exit

FOOTBALL

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Potters Bar Town 3

Wyllie 23, Remy 25, Watson 75



Whitstable Town 0



MARK Munday was left bitterly disappointed after his Whitstable side limply crashed out of the FA Cup against Potters Bar Town.

After producing one of the results of the previous round to knock out Carshalton, the Oystermen were a pale imitation against their opponents from the Ryman North.

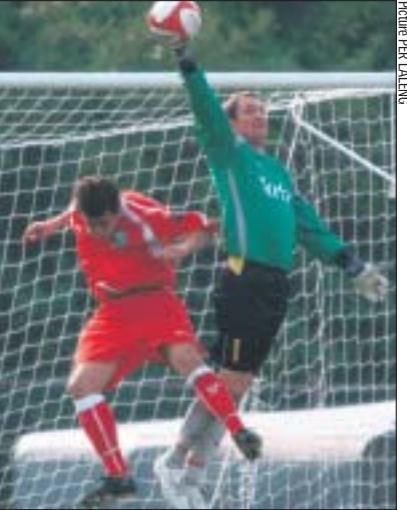
Munday felt it was the worst performance since he took over at the Belmont this summer and admitted Town got exactly what they deserved.

"The side which wanted it more won the game, that's as honest as I can be," he told Yourcanterbury.

"We just weren't at the races. There were three or four players who performed as they normally do and the rest were completely off their game."

"If you can't get up for the FA Cup with the chance of a decent tie in the next round then you have to look at yourselves."

"Hopefully it was a one-off but I can't forgive



UNPROTECTED: Whitstable goalkeeper Kevin Fewell could do little to prevent the club's FA Cup exit

the players for not putting the work in, it was very disappointing."

With last Wednesday's game at Ashford called off due to floodlight failure, Jake Gess was still suspended for the trip. Town were also without the injured Alex Hossick and Stuart Vahid, who had a family emergency.

The visitors should have taken the lead

Whitstable starting XI



Subs used: Cornhill (Brown 61), Batten (Dolton 72)

inside the first ten minutes when Ben Brown twice got in behind the home side's defence.

The on-loan winger did well to get into good positions but lacked composure at the vital moment, hitting both efforts straight at the goalkeeper.

Whitstable had chances even after they had fallen behind. Dan Wisker somehow flicked wide from six yards and Dan Tanner was twice denied in quick succession from close range as Potters Bar protected their clean sheet.

At the other end the home side were clinical, taking their only three clear-cut chances to comfortably progress into the third qualifying round.

Town are again in cup action this weekend as they start their FA Trophy campaign at home to Walton & Hersham. Whitstable knocked out Kingstonian at the same stage last season, which was only the club's second ever win in the competition.

Munday said: "It'll be a tough game but we have to bounce back. I need to see a reaction from the players."

FOOTBALL



CONCERN: Canterbury lost for third time this season

Surprise defeat sees City slip further down league table

Canterbury City 1 Rusthall 3

CANTERBURY City sank deeper into the middle of the Kent County Football League Premier Division following a surprise defeat to struggling Rusthall.

Luke Lockhart was on target at Hersden to cancel out the visitors' opener, but defensive errors cost City as they slipped to their third defeat of the season.

After going through the whole of last season unbeaten in the league, City manager Dave Fairclough admitted his side have to improve.

He said: "We've got to tighten up defensively. We've discovered that even the teams in the lower half of this league can punish you, and that's what Rusthall did."

Fairclough made seven changes from the previous week's defeat by Snodland, yet failure to keep possession and defensive lapses continued. But for the brilliant goalkeeping of Rob Lindley, City would have been further embarrassed. Even his heroics were not enough to stop a blazing shot from Stuart Hunter, who fired Rusthall in front at half-time.

City equalised when Royston Gough broke through and was brought down by the visitors' goalkeeper. Lockhart converted the penalty to level the scores.

Rusthall arrived without a point to their name from the opening four games of the season, although they had played several matches likely to be in the running for promotion, and they caught City cold in the closing stages.

The hosts' defence failed to cope with their opponents' quick attacks and with Lindley struggling with a dead leg which ultimately forced him off, Rusthall took advantage to score twice.

Defeat left City ninth, seven points behind leaders Hollands & Blair.

City will be at home to Lydd Town in the Weald of Kent Cup on Saturday. Kick-off is at 2.15pm.



Picture ADV KERRY

Ladies come back from loss to defeat hapless Trojans

HOCKEY

Canterbury ladies 10 Trojans ladies 1

CANTERBURY ladies got their season up and running in style as they blasted ten goals past a sorry Trojans ladies side on Saturday.

After an opening day defeat at Leicester, Ian Jennings' side needed to bounce back quickly. They got exactly what they wanted, opening the scoring inside the first two minutes when Mel Clewlow fired home from a penalty corner.

The visitors equalised shortly afterwards, but it was only a brief respite. Susie Rowe and Natalie Seymour scored in quick succession to give the hosts a 3-1 lead at half-time.

It was one-way traffic after the break as Canterbury romped to victory. Jenny Hall and another for Seymour made the game safe in the opening six minutes of the half.

Cathy Gilliat-Smith scored twice, while Rowe and Clewlow grabbed their second goals of the game before Seymour completed her hat-trick.

On Sunday they face a trip to Olton & West Warwick.

Canterbury's men had a much tougher game but made it two wins out of two in a hard-fought game against Chelmsford.

Player/coach Kwan Browne made it three goals in two games from a penalty corner on 14 minutes, but the hosts levelled just before half-time. Andrew Sutherland restored the advantage ten minutes into the second half before Chelmsford again pegged the visitors

back with seven minutes remaining.

Jess Dowsing netted the winner three minutes from time to preserve Canterbury's fast start to the season. It kept them top of the Conference East ahead of Saturday's home game against Bromley & Beckenham.

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Gills manager Mark Stimson reveals why he can't afford loan signings

LEAGUE TABLES

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Godalming Town	8	6	1	1	+9	19
2 Folkestone Invicta	8	5	2	1	+6	17
3 Merstham	9	5	1	3	-1	16
4 Croydon Athletic	7	4	2	1	+15	14
5 Chatham Town	8	4	1	3	-1	13
6 Walton & Hersham	6	3	3	0	+5	12
7 Corinthian-Casuals	8	3	3	2	+4	12
8 Fleet Town	8	3	2	3	+5	11
9 Dulwich Hamlet	8	3	2	3	+1	11
10 Metropolitan Police	8	2	4	2	+2	10
11 Burgess Hill Town	8	3	1	4	-1	10
12 Worthing	6	3	0	3	+1	9
13 Walton Casuals	7	2	3	2	0	9
14 Whyteleafe	8	3	0	5	-1	9
15 Ramsgate	9	2	3	4	-2	9
16 Leatherhead	7	2	2	3	0	8
17 Sittingbourne	6	2	2	2	0	8
18 Eastbourne Town	7	1	3	3	-4	6
19 Horsham YMCA	7	1	3	3	-7	6
20 Whitstable Town	6	2	0	4	-9	6
21 Ashford Town	7	1	2	4	-13	5
22 Chipstead	8	0	4	4	-9	4

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

1 Faversham Town	8	7	1	0	+16	22
2 Beckenham Town	7	5	1	1	+8	16
3 Herne Bay	7	5	0	2	+4	15
4 Greenwich Borough	8	3	3	2	+5	12
5 Erith & Belvedere	6	4	0	2	+3	12
6 Sevenoaks Town	5	2	2	1	+7	8
7 Hythe Town	4	2	1	1	+8	7
8 Holmesdale	6	2	1	3	+2	7
9 Erith Town	4	2	1	1	+2	7

KENT COUNTY LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

1 Hollands & Blair	7	5	2	0	+7	17
2 Stanfield Q&B Club	7	5	1	1	+9	16
3 Sutton Athletic	7	4	2	1	+8	14
4 Snodland	7	4	1	2	+4	13
5 Phoenix Sports	7	4	1	2	+2	13
6 Bly Spartans	7	4	0	3	+3	12
7 Bearedst	7	3	3	1	+3	12
8 Fleet Leisure	6	3	1	2	+5	10
9 Canterbury City	7	3	1	3	-2	10
10 Coney Hall	7	3	0	4	-1	9

15 Lewisham Borough	6	1	0	5	-8	3
16 Cray Valley (PM)	7	0	1	6	-8	1

FIXTURES (Saturday): FA Trophy Preliminary Round: Whitstable Town v Walton & Hersham; FA Vase First Round: Herne Bay v Hythe Town



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